

# HGTV

magazine



**Great-  
looking  
kitchens**  
*full of clever ideas*

**Cozy!  
Colorful!**

**126** ways to renew  
your rooms

**DECORATE  
FOR LESS**

50 finds under \$50



**Shop  
like a  
designer**  
10 helpful  
tips

Vern Yip

**Fun with paint**  
**8 mini makeovers**  
page 107

**A CLEAN HOUSE!**  
**Fast tricks  
that save the day**







\*EPA-estimated for 4-cyl. model. As shown, 6-cyl. model: 17 city/24 hwy. \*\*Go to [gm.com/bluetooth](http://gm.com/bluetooth) to see which Bluetooth phones are compatible with the vehicle. †Map coverage available in the United States, U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Canada. ©2012 General Motors. All rights reserved. GMC® MultiFlex® Terrain® WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE®





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2012 TERRAIN

**STYLING**  
CHROME ACCENTS

**EFFICIENCY**  
32 HWY MPG\*

**SEATING**  
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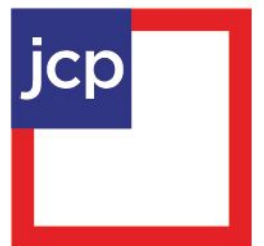




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# come on in!

## front door of the month

### light

Steel triangular pendant, \$450, restoration hardware.com



### door

Fiberglass all panel door, \$480, jeld-wen.com for stores; paint: Clay Pot exterior paint by Olympic; wrought steel entry set, \$266, houseofantique hardware.com; vine and berry wreath by Matthew Robbins Design, matthewrobbinsdesign.com. See page 158 for the how-to



### mailbox

Copper envelope wall mailbox, \$199, grandinroad.com



### bench

Teak classic two-seater bench, \$485, allmodern.com

### umbrella stand

Hand-forged iron and mango wood stand, \$99, potterybarn.com



### welcome mat

Black Crow coir mat, \$27, uncommongoods.com



### pumpkins

Spray-paint pumpkins and add stencils or decals, if desired. Metallic gold spray paint, krylon.com for stores



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**RAMSJÖ kitchen \$5999 as shown** Red-brown stained, clear lacquered solid beech/beech veneer. \*The total price includes cabinets, fronts, interior shelving, drawer and door dampers, hinges, toe-kicks, legs, visible moldings and panels. Your choice of countertop, sink, faucet, handles, appliances and lighting are sold separately. See IKEA store for limited warranty, country of origin, and 10'x10' layout details. Valid in US IKEA stores only.



**The Life Improvement Store™**



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COVER: Photograph by Lucas Allen. Styling by Anthony Santelli and Rachael Weiner. Upholstery by Martin Albert Interiors.

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could use a hand.



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Options shown.





#NewLexusES



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# company's coming! you ready?

## HOW I PREP FOR GUESTS—FAST



✓ **FREE UP SOME HANGERS**  
Have a bunch hanging in closets,  
ready for action.

✓ **REPLACE SHOWER  
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Such a simple trick. New  
white fabric liners brighten and  
freshen up any bath.



✓ **SET OUT BOARD GAMES**  
It's great when guests can  
just scoot up to a table and  
entertain themselves.

✓ **DOUBLE UP ON COFFEE AND  
DISHWASHER DETERGENT**  
With a houseful of people, you can  
never have too much of either.



✓ **DUST DINING ROOM  
LIGHT FIXTURE**  
This time of year it gets a lot  
more attention than usual.

**r**ight now our office looks like one big prop closet of fall goodies. We have bowls of pinecones, piles of snuggly throws and pillows, jars of candy corn, spice-scented candles, and berry wreaths—all of them either about to be sent to a photo shoot or just back from one. It's a huge reminder that I need to get my own home guest-ready. Here come the trick-or-treaters, the Thanksgiving out-of-towners, the holiday parties. Here comes the trifecta for those of us who love to redecorate for the seasons. First I'll buy lots of baby pumpkins. (Really, who can resist them?) I'll swap the pillows on my sofa (from cotton to velvet) and the sheets on my bed (from cotton to bamboo. Try them—they're supersoft and cozy). Then I'll steal ideas from the HGTV hosts....

## A gourd turns into a turkey!

For this issue we had a great time asking a bunch of creative people, "How do you like to shake up Thanksgiving?" I love a roundup of ideas like this (with photos!) that I can hold on to for a long time. The first one I'll try: making the crafty centerpiece on page 89 ("Thanksgiving With a Twist"). I think it'll give my little niece and nephew the giggles.

## My kitchen is in for a treat

Peeking into people's homes is fun. Peeking into people's kitchen cupboards is fascinating! When I saw what five top cooking pros keep in their own pantries ("Pantry Raid," page 141), I got inspired to change up my usual party snacks. This year I'm going to serve a cheese plate with fancy honey as a dip.

## A toothbrush for my cleaning caddy

Confession: I tend to clean my place with reckless abandon right before people come over—spritzing countertops like crazy and speed-vacuuming. Not this holiday season. I'm going to slow down my pre-guest house cleaning routine. I'm borrowing tips from Sabrina Soto, who shares her self-described "neat freak" habits in "Clean House Confessions" (page 29). Like her, I'll use a toothbrush to scrub faucets and a squeegee to make my windows shine like never before—because anytime someone tells me, "Your place looks great," it makes it worth the effort.

### SHOW US!

Look for this button on  
stories throughout the  
magazine. We want  
to see your photos  
and feature them in  
upcoming issues.

new  
this issue!

*Sara*  
Sara Peterson  
Editor in Chief

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and follow me on Twitter. @HGTVMagSara



**“I’m HOOKED!”**

*Donna, on Facebook*

**“LOVE the way  
it CLEANS.”**

*Susan, on Facebook*

**“We’re completely addicted  
to GERANIUM.  
It makes cleaning  
MORE ENJOYABLE.”**

*Caitlin, on Facebook*

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# backstage at design star

HGTV Magazine got to play a role on the kitchen challenge episode of this season's *HGTV Design Star*. Here's our behind-the-scenes report.



Editor in chief Sara Peterson (in dress), David Bromstad (in gray vest), and the final six contestants



One of the most exciting days I've had this year was on the set of *HGTV Design Star*, where I was invited to deliver the episode's design challenge: Create a kitchen that will make a great-looking magazine feature. "We want to see a colorful room that's full of ideas and doesn't rely on old styling tricks," I told the six remaining contestants. "No boring bowls of fruit, please. Show us something new!" The contestants split into teams of two and designed their space in just two days. The winning duo: Danielle Colding and Britany Simon, creators of the pretty kitchen shown here. Danielle eventually won the *Design Star* title, and Britany was the show's runner-up. Quite a team! Check out their winning moves.

—Sara Peterson, editor in chief,  
*HGTV Magazine*

## winning move #1 rethink the furniture

Instead of using standard kitchen pieces, Danielle and Britany decorated the kitchen with artsier finds, like a bookcase and an antique buffet.

**DANIELLE:** "The bookcase is wide enough to serve a purpose—holding big bowls and platters—but is a lot more beautiful than ordinary kitchen shelves."

**BRITANY:** "The rustic-looking buffet has our wall color in it. It was our lucky, sent-from-heaven piece."

## winning move #2 give lights top billing

An elegant fixture doesn't have to be saved for the dining room. It can be the star attraction in an eat-in kitchen, too.

**DANIELLE:** "For impact, choose a big one. If you have a 60-inch table, pick a chandelier that's about 44 inches in diameter."

**BRITANY:** "I love that this chandelier has a traditional shape and feminine feel with all those crystals, but the metal gives it an industrial vibe."

## winning move #3 play with accessories

On the buffet, Danielle and Britany used ceramic urns, antique beer steins (one became a flower vase), a candlestick, and a large mirror. They topped the bookcase with a trunk.

**DANIELLE:** "Not everything has to say *kitchen*. It's the quirky stuff that makes the room stand out."

**BRITANY:** "The mirror was a great find. It reflects the chandelier—bouncing light around—and makes the room feel larger."



Danielle, above right, has a new show, *Shop This Room*. See a preview on page 84.

Catch [hgtv.com](http://hgtv.com) fan favorite Britany, above left, on her *hgtv.com* show starting November 1, 2012.



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## YOU SHOWED US!

We asked to see your paint makeovers. Here are a few favorites:



"Grass green paint took these nightstands from pieces you wouldn't think twice about to furniture you can't ignore."

—Molly Molina Crawford, Atlanta, GA



"This dusky blue brings out the curvy lines and shape of the hutch, which I love."

—Jennifer Flores, Toronto, Ontario



"My daughter wasn't thrilled with her plain French dresser, so I modernized it with asymmetrical stripes in bright colors."

—DeAnna Mackensen, Yuba City, CA

FOR THE PAINT COLORS USED IN THESE PROJECTS, SEE PAGE 156.

# dear **HGTV** magazine



**THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE IS YOUR BEST YET.** I'm in the market for my first home, so I'm utilizing all the design tips, including the smart DIY ideas in "Yes,

That's the Same House!" But of all the great stories, "David's True Colors" is the gold mine. I've been eagerly awaiting a David house tour, since he's my design idol.

—Jeffery Tomlinson, Perrysburg, OH

**IT USUALLY TAKES ME ABOUT 15 TO 30 MINUTES TO GO THROUGH MOST MAGAZINES.** But I'll spend more than two hours reading yours. Because I watch HGTV, I feel a connection to the people you feature. It's like reading about my neighbors! My favorite column is "The High/Low List." I love seeing how you

can get the same look of high-priced items if you're willing to hunt for them.

—K. Andrews, Baton Rouge, LA



**GIDDY OVER PAINT INDEX** in this month's #HGTVMag. Many of my favorites are listed and others I must try!

—@FollowFrancesca via Twitter

**I'VE BEEN THINKING OF PAINTING MY FRONT DOOR** a bright color but wasn't sure which shade to choose. When I saw the yellow door in "Wow! What Color Is That?" in your June/July issue, I thought, *This is it!* I went right to the store and picked up Colonial Yellow by Sherwin-Williams.

Thanks for the idea—it's perfect.

—Jo Ann O'Roark, Olathe, KS



**WHEN I FIRST STARTED GETTING HGTV MAGAZINE,** I thought I'd tear out pages for my "dream home book," but I decided I need to hang on to each full issue. "Steal the Show" in the June/July issue got me so excited because it featured one of my favorite movies, *Something's Gotta Give*. I almost lost it when I saw that living room!

—Shawn H. Davis, Richmond, VA

**I LOVE THIS MAGAZINE!** Couldn't wait for the next issue, and once I got it, I read it cover to cover. One of my favorite columns is "How Bad Is It..." I learn something every time I read it. And I really love that the articles and projects are for "real people."

—Linda Fourman, Beavercreek, OH





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# artful inspiration

## WITH HGTV DESIGNER DAVID BROMSTAD

Painting is clearly **David Bromstad's** first love. "I'm inspired by objects I see every day," he says, "but I reinterpret them into something really interesting." To prove it, he accepted the challenge to go into a **Pier 1 Imports** store and find objects to inspire three original paintings. America voted—and David reveals the winner (opposite page), PLUS tips for choosing art.

### "MAKE SURE YOU LOVE IT."

This owl is whimsical to me and almost childlike—I love that. I started out doing kids' rooms and I wanted my painting to pay homage to that.

Choose artwork like you choose clothes. Try it on, look at it—feel it. Make sure it fits your personality.

### "ART CAN MAKE OR BREAK A SPACE."

Paintings can introduce color to your life. And you can gently bring in more with pillows and accessories. Don't be afraid of it! It's going to make you happy.

Design your room, see what's missing, and choose art last. Does it need something traditional? Contemporary? Humorous?



LIVELY TREE MOSAIC PANEL \$179\*

Opposite page: "With birds so hot right now in design, coordinating the painting with complementary objects is both trendy and fun."

### "THERE ARE NO RULES ON HOW TO DISPLAY ART."

Displaying a mix of images together? Matching frames will create cohesion and a bolder statement.

Change art with the season. This handcrafted mosaic brings fall's beauty indoors. You can do the same by framing a child's fall foliage collage.



Like David's painting (opposite page)? Pull out the winning piece and follow David's tips to integrate it into your space! PLUS, enter for a chance to WIN THE ORIGINAL and a \$5,000 Pier 1 Imports gift card at [www.HGTV.com/enter](http://www.HGTV.com/enter).

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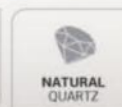
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# help wanted

Sabrina's sofa stays crumb-free thanks to weekly under-cushion vacuuming with the upholstery attachment.



## clean house confessions

**Sabrina Soto**, host of *The High Low Project*, admits she's a neat freak. Check out her dust-busting and clutter-clearing secrets.

HAIR AND MAKEUP: LAURA KOSKI

PHOTOGRAPHS BY **MELANIE ACEVEDO** WRITTEN BY **BETSY GOLDBERG**



**“I** can’t do anything until my space is neat. I’ve been that way since I was a kid,” says Sabrina, standing in her spotless New York City apartment. “I got my clean gene from my grandmother, who lived next door to us. She’d wake up at five and clean her house twice a day!” Now whenever Sabrina’s feeling stressed, she reaches for her cleaning caddy. “Straightening up empties my mind. And I think a neat space inspires people: Friends tell me that after they come over, they go home and clean.”

### **“My coffee table is a storage cubby, too”**

“In small spaces, every piece needs to be multifunctional. That’s why I like a coffee table with a shelf for storage. I had this metal one made in Brooklyn, and since it’s obnoxiously heavy—about 450 pounds—getting it into my apartment using a dolly was pure comedy. I wipe it down regularly with just a damp cloth, and twice a year I treat it with a solution I bought at a jewelry

supply store that keeps it from rusting. Still, you can see the rings from people’s cups, and I kind of love that. I’m neat and clean, yes, but I don’t want to dampen anyone’s fun.”

### **“I toss my rug if there’s a stain”**

“Well, not the whole rug! I bought these Flor carpet tiles not only because I love how they look, but also because if I can’t get a stain out, I recycle the tile and put down a new one. The tiles come with self-adhesive dots that connect the squares together at the corners. I’ve been known to stockpile extras, so replacing them is no big deal.” (For similar tiles, try Fall In Line, flor.com.)

### **“I’ve got messy stuff. I just hide it well”**

“The pretty boxes on the coffee table are like my junk drawers. They’re where



all my USB cables, remotes, and cords are stored. I keep them neat with Velcro cord wrappers. Sometimes I’ll go in search of the perfect box to conceal a specific item, and other times I’ll just buy a set of nesting containers in a bunch of sizes knowing I can always find something to put in them.”



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## help wanted

### "The best secret storage spot is under the mattress"

"The first time people see this hydraulic bed, they always say, 'Oh my God! I need that for my house!' I bought mine a few years back from West Elm, but overstock.com sells similar ones. I don't have a big linen closet, and there's nothing I hate more than seeing those plastic bins under the bed, so I keep extra bedding in here, plus bags, suitcases, and out-of-season

stuff. I also love that the bed frame goes all the way to the floor. No dust bunnies! During the week, I make my bed fast: I pull the flat sheet all the way up and the blanket two thirds of the way up, then I fold the sheet over the blanket and fold the duvet in half at the foot of the bed. On the weekend, I'll make the bed more elaborate by adding three Euro shams behind the regular pillows and shams. Most people use two, but I like how three cover the entire head of this king-size bed."



### "A lot of sorting goes on in my clothes closet"

"All my stuff is organized by category—skirts, tank tops, long-sleeve shirts—and within those, I sort by color. I started out doing lightest to darkest but quickly realized that wasn't going to last long! I use only Huggable Hangers, which take up a lot less room (\$10 for set of 10, [containerstore.com](http://containerstore.com)). If I had more room, I'd insist on at least a finger's width of space between each hanger."



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## "I treat my office wall like a vertical desk"

"I have lots of little objects in my office—illustration markers, scissors, swatches—but because there's a place for it all, it looks neat. When I saw these little buckets in the kitchen section of IKEA, I thought they would be great for color-coding my markers and making them easy to reach. I also use what looks like a giant metal binder clip to hang my purse off the side of my desk. It's from a company called Poppin (poppin.com), which makes really cute office supply stuff. I drop my bag on it as soon as I walk into the apartment so I don't have to hunt for it later."



## "My bathroom doesn't have a chance to get dirty"

"Every morning after showering, I do a mini cleanup. First I pull the shower curtain shut so it dries flat. Then I wipe the mirror with a damp microfiber cloth and a spritz of Windex. I'm addicted to Windex. I would wash my face with it if I could! Next I wipe down the countertop and sink. Bigger jobs get tackled on the weekend: I clean the toilet with Soft Scrub and the tub with Bon Ami. If the grout looks grungy, I'll use Homax Tile Grout Coating with a stiff grout brush to whiten it up."



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- Method Squirt + Mop hard floor cleaner
- Casabella squeegee (for streak-free windows)
- Windex Original glass cleaner (for windows, mirrors, and lamp bases)
- Method Bathroom cleaner (for bathroom walls and showers)
- OXO Good Grips grout brush
- Workforce Small Soft-Grip scrub brush (for tubs and floors)
- A clean toothbrush (for faucets and fixtures)
- Casabella Eclipse lint roller (for stereo speakers)
- Bon Ami powder cleanser (for tubs)
- Tree Spirit Mineral Oil (for stainless steel appliances or surfaces)



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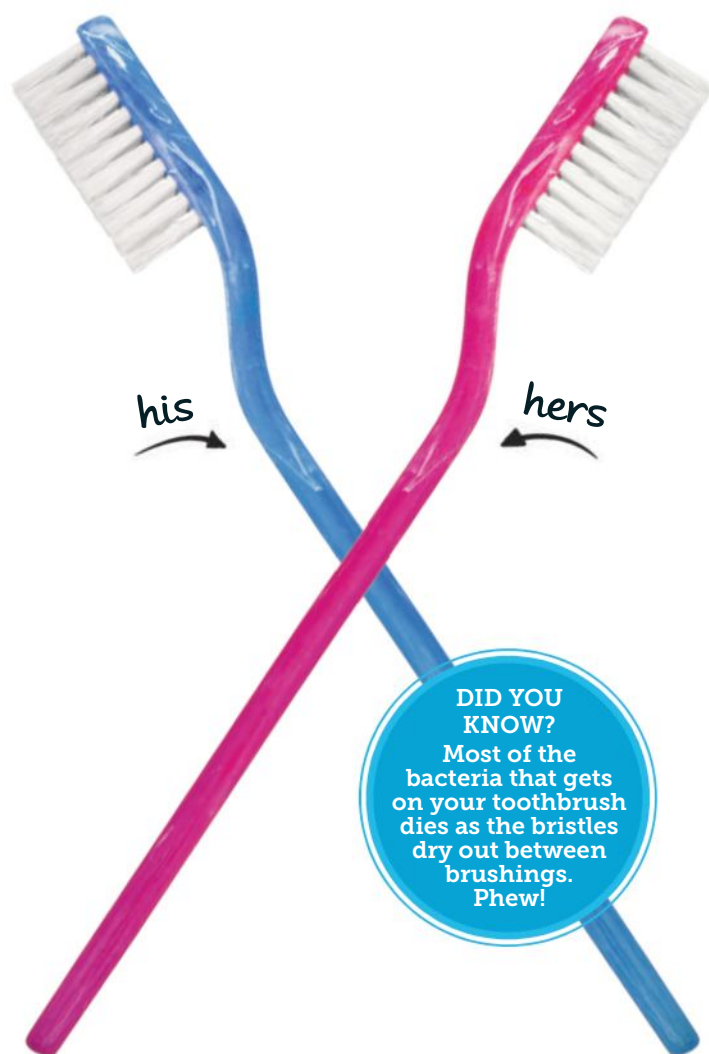
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# how bad is it...

Straight answers to scratch-your-head questions.



**DID YOU KNOW?**  
Most of the bacteria that gets on your toothbrush dies as the bristles dry out between brushings. Phew!

...to borrow your spouse's **toothbrush** in a pinch?

**A:** As long as you're both healthy, swapping brushes is no big deal. "The germs you pick up on a toothbrush aren't much different from the ones you get when you kiss," says Matthew Messina, D.D.S., an American Dental Association spokesperson. But don't share if either of you has a virus, like the flu or a cold sore, since those can be passed on. Better to clean your teeth by swishing some mouthwash around instead.

**BOTTOM LINE:** not so bad!

...to eat **leftovers** a week after Thanksgiving?

**A:** It feels wasteful to toss what seems (and smells) like good turkey and stuffing. But eating week-old dishes puts you at an increased risk for food poisoning, or at least a stomachache. As a rule of thumb, when any leftovers reach the three-day mark, eat them or freeze them. After that they should get tossed, says Shelley Feist, executive director of the Partnership for Food Safety Education. Don't assume you can judge what's safe by using your eyes or nose. "You can't see, smell, or taste E. coli or salmonella—and if your food is harboring either bacteria, it could make you sick," says Feist.

**BOTTOM LINE:**  
really bad!



...to unpack your **suitcase** on your bed?

**A:** Ew, think about all the surfaces those wheels have rolled across! The dirt and grime they pick up can easily rub off on your linens. If that's not gross enough, your bag could be harboring the most unwanted guests ever: bedbugs. "Never place your suitcase on a soft surface like a bed or chair, where bugs can scurry under cushions or sheets," says Gail Getty, an entomologist in Los Angeles. Unpack in the garage or on another hard surface, like the floor of a bathroom or the laundry room, where it's much easier to see and kill critters. If you do spot bugs, seal the suitcase in a bag until you can have it professionally treated.

**BOTTOM LINE:**  
super bad!

# how bad is it...



...to burn  
**newspaper**  
in the  
fireplace?

**A:** Starting a fire with two or three pages is fine, but burn more than that and you're entering a danger zone. "Newspaper burns hotter than wood," says Leslie Wheeler, director of communications for the Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association. It burns so hot that it can ignite creosote (the residue created when you burn logs) that may have built up in your chimney—which could start a chimney fire and then spread to the rest of your house. Burning newsprint also creates a lot of ash, which could drift from the fireplace into your lungs, causing respiratory problems over time. An even bigger no-no: burning magazines and catalogs. Their glossy pages give off toxic gases when ignited.

**BOTTOM LINE:**  
**super bad!**

...not to  
tip your  
grocery  
store  
bagger?

**A:** First find out if your store even allows tips for carrying bags to the car. Many supermarkets don't, so the gesture can make baggers feel uncomfortable and put their job in jeopardy. If your store does permit tips, give \$1 or \$2, depending on how many bags you have and how heavy they are, says Diane Gottsman, an etiquette expert at The Protocol School of Texas. "It's nice to show appreciation," she says, but not mandatory. "Most baggers get an hourly wage, so even if they are tipped, they're not relying on that money for income, unlike restaurant servers."

**BOTTOM LINE:**  
**not so bad!**



...to put  
your **bra**  
in the  
dryer?

**A:** "Machine drying your bras makes them practically disposable," says Linda "The Bra Lady" Becker, owner of Linda's Bra Salon boutiques in New York City. Bras contain a lot of elastic, which deteriorates when exposed to a dryer's high heat. Also, even if you put your bras in a lingerie bag, a dryer's repetitive spinning can bend underwires or cause them to pop out of their casing, quickly putting your bra out of business. Instead, lay your freshly washed bra flat between two towels and press out the moisture, suggests Becker. When it's almost dry, reshape the cups with your hands and hang the bra over a towel rack or clothesline to finish the job.

**BOTTOM LINE:**  
**pretty bad!**

...to **fall**  
**asleep** with  
your TV  
set on?

**A:** If you nod off with *The Tonight Show* on but feel well-rested the next day, there's no real need to change your habits. But if you're foggy in the morning, all that background noise and flickering light could be to blame. Instead, wind down with something calming, like classical music or an audiobook of a story you are already familiar with, says Lisa Shives, M.D., medical director at Northshore Sleep



Medicine in Evanston, IL. Leaving the TV on all night—and subjecting yourself to its up-and-down noise levels—keeps your mind engaged, which causes restless sleep. Your best bet is to give up the nighttime tube, but if you don't think you can, at least set the timer so it turns off after about 30 minutes. You'll save energy and trim a little off your electric bill to boot!

**BOTTOM LINE:**  
**sorta bad!**



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# if your dishwasher could talk

Here's what it would tell you to do to get your loads even cleaner.

## Don't stress about choosing a wash cycle.

Unless you're filling the machine with pots and pans (there's a specific cycle for that), set it on the "normal" cycle. It'll run anywhere from 1½ to 3½ hours, depending on your machine, and can handle most jobs.

## THEY'RE DISHWASHER-SAFE

Surprise! You can put these in (top rack only, please).



## Dishes coming out crusty?

Start an empty washer on "normal." When it fills with water, open the door—you should see enough water to just cover the bottom. If there's less, the electric inlet valve, which lets water into the machine, may have malfunctioned. Check the manual to locate it. If it looks clogged or broken, replace it. (You can buy a new one online for \$20 to \$50.) It's an easy DIY fix.

## I need occasional TLC.

Food can gunk up the tiny holes in the propeller-like spray arm at the bottom of the machine, stopping water from reaching all your dishes. Clear them with a toothpick every month or so.

## Load me up right.

Stack the dirtiest items on the lower rack, where they are closest to the spray arm and will get the most cleaning action, and mugs and glasses on the top. Spoons and forks should go right-side up in the utensil basket, knives with their blades pointed down for safety.

## Don't waste time prerinsing.

Yes, you should scrape large clumps of food off your dishes, but manufacturers agree: You can let the dishwasher do the rest of the work!



# Yikes.



Updating your bath doesn't have to be scary. All it takes is a little advice and encouragement to turn that "yikes" into "yessssss."

help wanted

# shopping cart snoop

What folks in the know buy for their own homes.

## shampoo

### 1 L'Oréal Professionnel Volume Expand shampoo

“This is my pick for making fine hair look fuller. It really doesn't weigh my hair down—it just fluffs it up.” \$22, [soap.com](#)

—Alli Webb, founder of Drybar, a chain of blowout salons

### 2 Aveda Dry Remedy Moisturizing shampoo

“I'm from Minneapolis, MN, near where Aveda is headquartered, and it's like a religion there! I use this one on myself and on my daughter, Bebel. The smell is so natural and instantly reminds me of home.” from \$24, [aveda.com](#)

—Genevieve Gorder, *Dear Genevieve*

### 3 Aveeno Living Color shampoo

“I'm a big fan. It makes my color last longer and keeps my hair soft and smooth.” \$7, at [drugstores](#)

—Carla Maganinho, editor of [product-girl.com](#), a beauty blog

### 4 Trader Joe's Tea Tree Tingle shampoo

“It's funny, but I have no shampoo alliance—I like switching it up. This is my current favorite. It smells clean and minty, and it really does make your scalp tingle.” \$4, [Trader Joe's stores](#)

—John Gidding, *Curb Appeal: The Block*

### 5 Tresemmé 24 Hour Body shampoo

“My hair is constantly being curled or straightened for events. This shampoo is so hydrating that it always feels manageable.” from \$2.50, [target.com](#)

—Olivia Culpo, Miss USA 2012

### 6 Herbal Essences Hello Hydration Moisturizing shampoo

“After a day at the pool, the chlorine can make my hair feel dry and coarse. This shampoo leaves my curls soft, strong, and springy. Plus, I love getting a whiff of my hair—it smells like tropical flowers and coconut.” from \$4, [drugstore.com](#)

—Jessica Sorce, community pool lifeguard in Malibu, CA







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# test your linens IQ

Just how smart are you when it comes to towels, sheets, and pillows?

**1. The difference between sheets labeled *pima* and *Supima* is:**

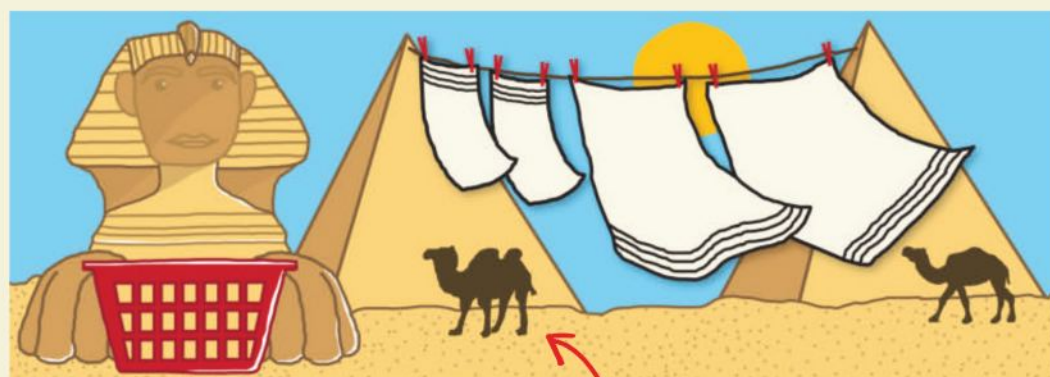
- [A]** price    **[B]** thread count  
**[C]** country where the cotton was grown

**2. What's the best way to keep towels fluffy?**

- [A]** use a cold rinse  
**[B]** launder with fabric softener and tumble dry with a dryer sheet  
**[C]** skip the softener and dryer sheet; tumble dry, then shake before folding

**3. With pillow and comforter fillings, the terms *feather* and *down* are interchangeable.**

- [A]** true    **[B]** false



**4. Egyptian cotton sheets are made with cotton that actually comes from Egypt.**

- [A]** true    **[B]** false

**5. What's the most effective way to deodorize smelly towels?**

- [A]** launder in hot water  
**[B]** add ½ cup baking soda to the rinse cycle  
**[C]** tumble dry on the hottest setting  
**[D]** add ¼ cup white vinegar to the wash cycle

**7. If you are using a featherbed mattress topper, you should put it \_\_\_\_\_ the mattress pad.**

- [A]** over    **[B]** under



**6. Match each sheet fiber to its characteristics:**

- [A]** cotton    **[B]** cotton-polyester blend  
**[C]** linen    **[D]** bamboo

- [1]** smooth, silky feel; generally grown without pesticides or chemical fertilizers  
**[2]** inexpensive, virtually wrinkle-free, can pill with prolonged use  
**[3]** the most common fiber for sheets, durable, comfortable, easy to care for  
**[4]** expensive; derived from the flax plant; extremely strong and durable; comfortable in hot, humid weather; wrinkles easily



**8. Match the sleeping style to the best pillow:**

- [A]** side sleeper  
**[B]** back sleeper  
**[C]** stomach sleeper  
**[1]** soft and relatively flat  
**[2]** plump and firm  
**[3]** plump and squishable

Turn the page to continue →

## help wanted

9. A California king mattress is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ than a regular king mattress.

[A] wider/shorter [B] narrower/longer



10. A down comforter's fill power affects its:

[A] size [B] warmth  
[C] ability to keep its shape

11. What's the best way to remove makeup from a pillowcase?

[A] launder in cold water  
[B] treat with a prewash stain remover  
[C] launder with 2 tablespoons iodized salt  
[D] soak in a solution of hot water and chlorine bleach

12. Euro pillows measure:

[A] 34 x 44 inches [B] 18 x 18 inches  
[C] 26 x 26 inches



13. Which kind of bath towel dries fastest, making it ideal for damp bathrooms?

[A] terry cloth [B] velour  
[C] waffle weave

## ANSWER SHEET

✓ 1. [C] Country where the cotton was grown. Supima is a trademark that distinguishes pima cotton grown in the United States from pima cotton grown in Peru, Australia, and other countries. Pima cotton is often used to produce soft, durable sheets.

✓ 2. [C] Skip the softener and dryer sheet; tumble dry, then shake before folding. Bath towels are typically made of terry cloth, which is covered with tiny loops. Tumble drying and shaking fluffs those up. Fabric softeners, which coat the fibers, make towels less absorbent, says Ingrid Johnson, a Fashion Institute of Technology textile pro. Dryer sheets reduce absorbency too.

✓ 3. [B] False. Down is the fine undercoating of waterfowl such as ducks and geese. It has a 3-D structure, whereas feathers are 2-D. "It would take 10 times the weight of feathers to equal the insulating power of down," say the experts at the American Down & Feather Council.

✓ 4. [A] True. Cotton labeled *Egyptian* is grown in Egypt, which has a long

tradition of making high-quality cotton with long fibers. This produces durable, soft fabric because lots of long fibers woven together feel smoother than lots of short ones.

✓ 5. [B] Add ½ cup baking soda to the rinse cycle. It deodorizes stinky laundry the same way it neutralizes fridge odors. Wash in the hottest water that's safe for the fabric (check the label)—and keep in mind that hot water alone, or even a really hot dryer, won't get rid of bad smells. Vinegar can dispel some odors, but baking soda, which absorbs odors, works best on towels, says Johnson.

✓ 6. A3, B2, C4, D1 (Count as correct only if you match them all.)

✓ 7. [B] Under. Any mattress topper should be protected against spills, moisture, and soiling with a washable mattress cover. You may need a mattress pad with extra-deep pockets to fit over the featherbed.

✓ 8. A2, B3, C1 (Count as correct only if you match them all.) Stomach sleepers need a pillow that won't wrench their neck

upward. Back and side sleepers require a plumper one, and back sleepers may need extra give to keep their head and neck in line.

✓ 9. [B] Narrower/longer. A king-size mattress measures 76 inches wide and 80 inches long. A California king is 72 inches wide and 84 inches long.

✓ 10. [B] Warmth. The higher the fill power, the warmer the comforter.

✓ 11. [B] Treat with a prewash stain remover, says Martha Chapin, manager of education at the American Cleaning Institute. These removers contain ingredients that work well on oil-based stains—and, unlike chlorine bleach, they're generally safe for colored fabrics. Also, most detergents work best in hot water rather than cold.

✓ 12. [C] 26 x 26 inches. Used mainly as decorative accents, Euro pillows are also good back support when you're reading.

✓ 13. [C] Waffle weave. These tend to be light and thin—therefore faster-drying.

**HOW MANY DID YOU GET RIGHT?**

**11+**

Genius—HGTV should have a linens show, starring you!

**6–10**

Commendable! Your linen closet is in good hands.

**0–5**

Wake up! Your bed deserves better.

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“Deal with cracks in concrete right away. If water gets into them and freezes, it could ruin your sidewalk.”

supply, then go outside and turn on the faucet. Let any remaining water dribble out of the pipe, then turn off the faucet. If your home doesn't have a shutoff valve, have a plumber install one. Until then, protect the faucet with a foam cover (about \$5, at hardware stores).

# talk to a toolman

Should you hire a pro or tackle that home repair job yourself? *Elbow Room's* **Chip Wade** weighs in on five common questions.

## Q: Water is leaking under my kitchen sink. Help!

**CHIP SAYS: GIVE IT A GO.** Clear out the cabinet and dry the area, then run your hands along the pipes to feel where the water is coming from. Most leaks are caused by a loose pipe connector, called a fitting, which resembles a big nut. Look for it where the pipe

curves or is joined to another pipe. Once you locate the weak spot, twist the fitting with your hand or a wrench until it's snug.

## Q: Mud got all over my carpets. Do they need a professional cleaning?

**CHIP SAYS: HIRE A PRO.** To ensure dirt's gone from both the carpet and pad beneath it,

call in the experts for a hot-water extraction (a.k.a. steam cleaning). Before they arrive, move your furniture. The pros will use a powerful vacuum to propel hot water and cleansing agents into your carpet at high pressure, which will loosen and remove the mud. The process, including dry time, takes a day and costs about \$75 per room.

## Q: Can I install a programmable thermostat in my home?

**CHIP SAYS: GIVE IT A GO.** This is an easy swap. Just turn off the power to your furnace, pop off the old thermostat cover, and unscrew the base from the wall. You'll see between two and six wires; note which part of the thermostat each was attached to. Then screw the new thermostat's base into the wall, reconnecting the wires according to your notes. Snap on the cover, turn on the furnace's power, and set your on/off times and temperatures.

## Q: How do I prevent my outdoor faucet from freezing when temps drop?

**CHIP SAYS: IT DEPENDS.** Does the pipe that leads to your outdoor faucet have a shutoff valve inside your home? If yes, this is a DIY job: Turn the valve clockwise to stop the water

## Q: I've noticed some thin cracks along my concrete driveway and sidewalk. Can I patch them?

**CHIP SAYS: GIVE IT A GO.** Apply painter's tape around the edges of each crack. Fill thin fissures ( $\frac{1}{8}$  inch to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch wide) with a concrete patch sealer. Caulk-tube versions are easiest to use—just squeeze the sealer into the crack, then smooth it with a plastic spatula or putty knife, and peel off the tape. For cracks wider than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch, first push a concrete backer rod (a foam rope) into the crack to fill most of the void, then apply the sealer on top. Smooth it, and peel off the tape. The sealer takes about 24 hours to harden.

## CHIP'S PICK TOUGH-AS-NAIL TAPE

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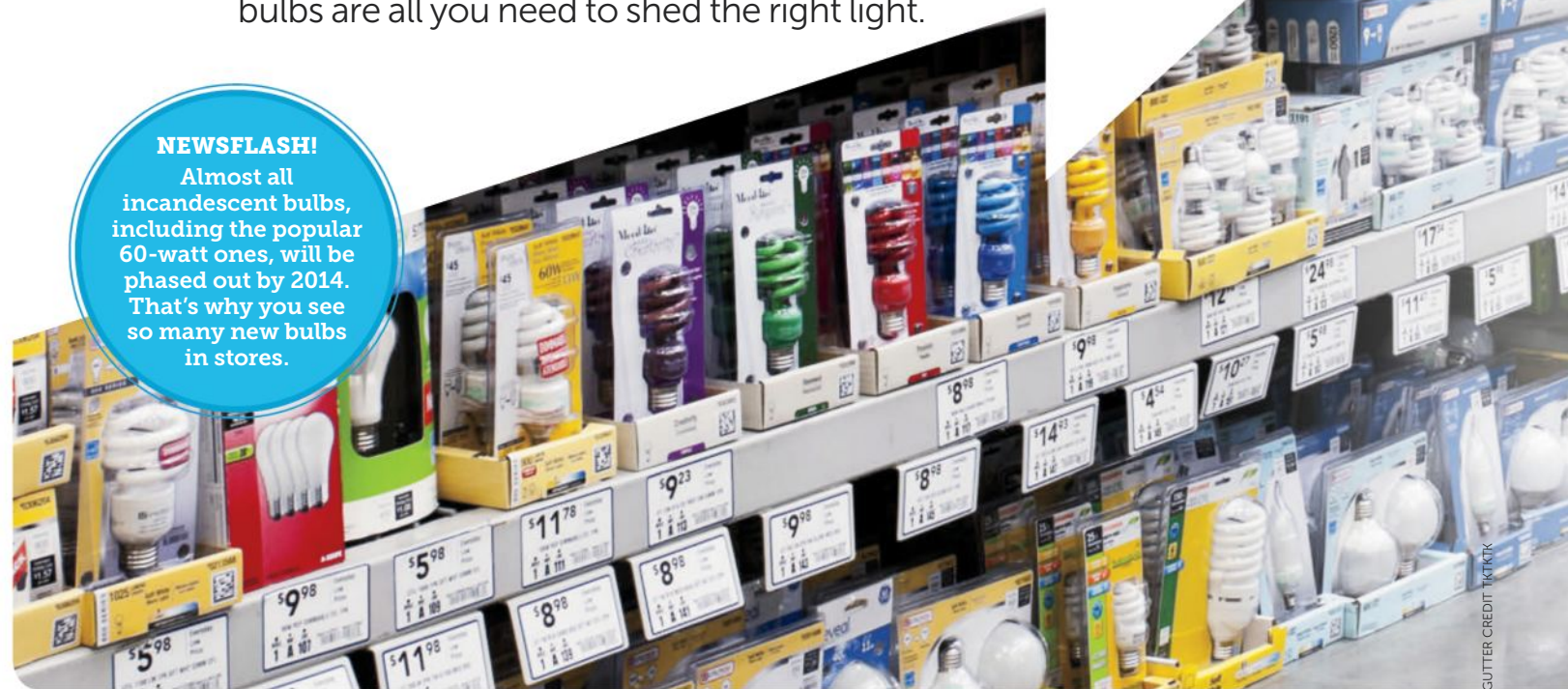


# narrowing down the **lightbulb aisle**

In the dark about what to buy? These six bulbs are all you need to shed the right light.

## **NEWSFLASH!**

Almost all incandescent bulbs, including the popular 60-watt ones, will be phased out by 2014. That's why you see so many new bulbs in stores.







## bedroom

**Philips Lighting  
L Prize LED, \$50**

"This bulb can save you nearly \$165 over its 27-year life, and it won a U.S. Department of Energy contest. Plus, its yellow coating helps it give off a warm, soft glow." —**Terry McGowan**, engineering director, American Lighting Association



## hall or closet

**GE Lighting Energy  
Smart Bright from the  
Start A19 CFL, \$10**

"Some CFLs take a while to fully light up, but thanks to a halogen capsule, this bulb reaches full brightness in a flash."  
—**Marc Maldoff**, lightbulb merchandising director, Lowe's



## bathroom

**Sylvania CFL twist medium  
screw base, \$9**

"What makes this CFL special is its compact height (3½ inches), which means it can fit in even the smallest enclosed fixtures. It also gives off a flattering light." —**Dennis Barker**, president, Bulbworks, Inc., specialty bulb retailer



## living room

**Satco halogen 3-way, \$4**

"Great for lamps with high, medium, and low settings because it has three different wattage outputs. Even better, it's inexpensive and uses 25 percent less energy than traditional bulbs."  
—**Mark Candido**, owner, Illumé lighting store, New York City



## home office

**EcoSmart A19 LED, \$24**

"I use this flattop bulb in desk lamps. It makes a great reading light because you can see details sharper and colors truer, but the light is still soft. It also costs less than similar LEDs."  
—**Brian Clark Howard**, coauthor, *Green Lighting*



## kitchen

**Lighting Science  
DFN BR30 LED, \$30**

"The MVP of recessed lighting! It uses 60 fewer watts than its halogen counterpart, so I put it in highly trafficked spaces where I need the light on for long periods of time, like the kitchen."  
—**Mike Connors**, CEO, bulbs.com







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\*Standard on EX-L and above. LDW only alerts drivers when unintended lane drift is detected. LDW operation and/or accuracy affected by weather, speed, road-marking quality and condition, and extreme interior heat. Driver remains responsible for safely operating vehicle. Touring model shown. ©2012 American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

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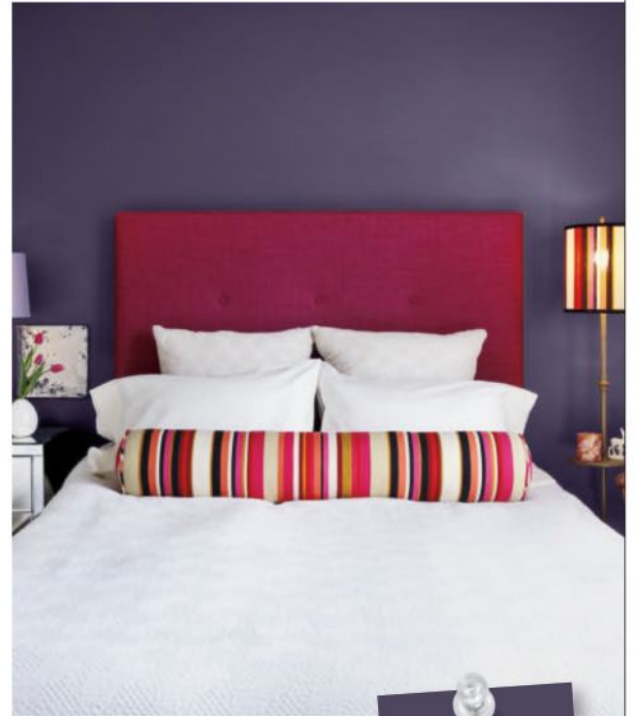


# fun decorating

wow!

## what color is that?

These paint shades stopped us in our tracks. We asked the designers to spill their secret sources.



### shadow

BY BENJAMIN MOORE

"I love how this purplish indigo makes an otherwise girly room mature. Paired with other furniture, it could look masculine, too. Scared to go this dark? Use it on one wall, and keep the floor and ceiling light."

—Yasmin Zeitler, Marion Melbourne interior design, Toronto, Ontario



### mermaid's tail

BY OLYMPIC

"This seafoam green gives traditional furniture a breezy feel, like it belongs on a terrace in the Mediterranean. You can even add other bright hues, like pink and orange, if you keep the walls white."

—Cristina Monmany, Estudio Cristina Monmany, Buenos Aires, Argentina



## fun decorating



## stone blue

**BY FARROW & BALL**

"A dusky blue like this belongs in a room with lots of natural light, or it'll look flat. To make it stand out, paint the bottom half of the wall white."

—Capella Kincheloe, Capella Kincheloe Interior Design, Phoenix, AZ

## organdy

**BY BENJAMIN MOORE**

"I wanted a color that was soft but sophisticated, and this shade, with a touch of mauve, is unexpected in an entryway. Gray and polished nickel accents toughen it up a little. It would also look pretty paired with navy."

—Amanda Reid, Mandarin Studio, Cambridge, MA



## sunburst

**BY BENJAMIN MOORE**

"Using yellow in a kitchen is common—unless it's on the ceiling! But you have to choose a bold shade or no one will notice. This extra bright choice would also look great paired with sage, black, and warm wood tones."

—Tara Seawright, Tara Seawright Inc./Interior Design, New York City, NY

## ravishing coral

**BY SHERWIN-WILLIAMS**

"The vivid coral on this desk is like eye candy! Try it in a space where you want to encourage creativity and energy, like a home office. Then balance the brightness with a cooler wall tone, like a light blue."

—Brian Patrick Flynn, Décor Demon, hgtv.com contributor, Los Angeles, CA





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or call 1-800-799-1399. Use offer code HG1012. Expires 11/7/12.

Shown: Floribunda Percale Bedding, Pinstripe Quilt, Hampton Table, and Mirage Rug



## fun decorating

### kirsch red

BY HGTV HOME BY SHERWIN-WILLIAMS

"Red isn't usually considered a peaceful color, but a cranberry hue like this one comes off as mellow because it's so warm. I paired it with black, charcoal, and creamy white in this bedroom to keep the look tranquil."

—Linda Woodrum, HGTV Dream Home interior designer, Hilton Head Island, SC



### chatroom BY SHERWIN-WILLIAMS

"This supersubtle green has so much gray in it, it's almost a neutral. The kitchen is in a traditional brick house, so I applied a light glaze to make it more rustic. A serene shade like this also looks beautiful in a master bedroom or bath."

—Tobi Fairley, Tobi Fairley Interior Design, Little Rock, AK



### whipple blue

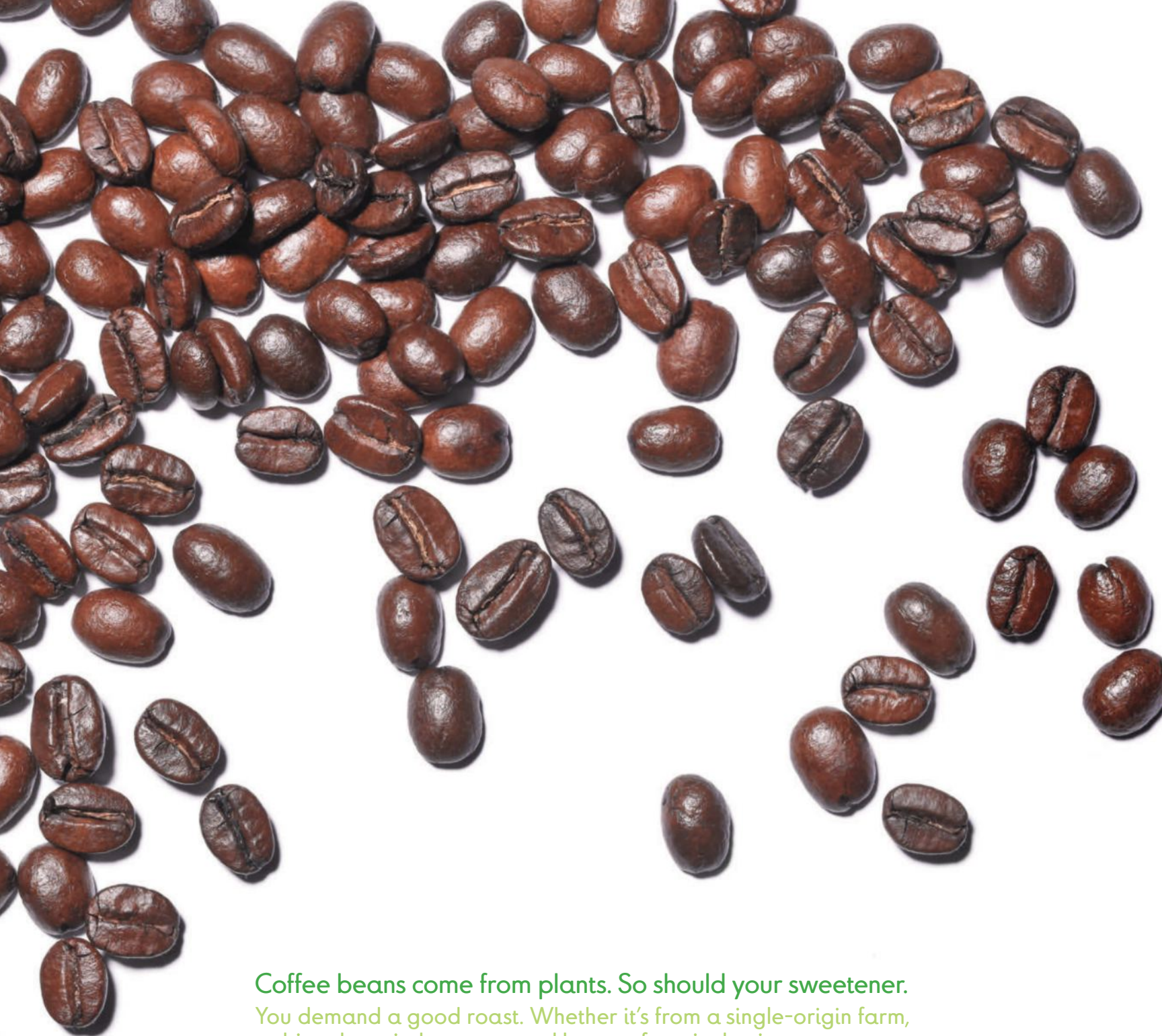
BY BENJAMIN MOORE

"Vanities are often neutral, so painting one a pretty color is an easy way to give a bathroom an entirely new look. A deep French blue like this feels more elegant than a light, pastel-y blue would."

—Erinn Valencich, Erinn V Design Group, Beverly Hills, CA







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sewing machine  
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1 new outfit for dancing  
and celebrating



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# the high/low list

With **Sabrina Soto**, host of *The High Low Project*, we pulled together some dynamic duos with drastically different price tags.



**\$748**

Choose from 99 colors and patterns for this go-anywhere ottoman, or send in your own fabric.

Catskill ottoman, 41"W x 41"D x 18"H, [laylagrayce.com](http://laylagrayce.com)

**\$279**

It's the perfect kick-up-your-feet height.

Skyline Furniture  
Sungold ottoman,  
35"W x 35"D x  
16½"H, [lowes.com](http://lowes.com)



**\$299**

Whimsical painted details dress up this three-way lamp.

Ceramic owl lamp with shade, [shadesoflight.com](http://shadesoflight.com)



**\$47**

With a textured ceramic base, this is an equally wise purchase.

Ceramic owl lamp with shade, [jcp.com](http://jcp.com)



**\$136**

Customize it! Choose from four frame colors and 15 options for the face.

Peter Pepper 12¾" wall clock, [wayfair.com](http://wayfair.com)

**\$17**

This lightweight plastic clock is easy to hang on the wall.

Infinity Instruments  
Metro 9" wall clock,  
[hayneedle.com](http://hayneedle.com)





**\$1,395**

So real-looking!  
But these resin  
antlers are made  
from molds.

Adirondack antler  
6-arm chandelier,  
restorationhardware.com



**\$189**

Smaller in scale,  
these faux antlers  
are still very  
ski-lodge chic.

Hampton Bay 5-light  
antler chandelier,  
homedepot.com

**\$238**

Silk front, velvet  
back, down fill.  
Super luxe!

Tamil paisley pillow,  
dransfieldandross.biz  
for stores



**\$25**

That rich red hue  
instantly autumnns  
up a sofa.

Venetian Jacquard pillow,  
worldmarket.com



**\$5,040**

With a handmade frame and soft goose-  
feather pillows, this sofa's built to last.

Jens sofa, hickorychair.com for stores



**\$1,699**

Loose back and cushy side pillows make  
it perfect for movie watching.

Essex sofa, westelm.com



**\$42**

Highly glazed  
ceramic gives it  
that shiny look.

Large orange dog bowl,  
bauerpottery.com

**\$14**

This ecofriendly  
version is great for  
travel or outdoors.

Large bamboo bowl,  
harrybarker.com







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\$765

Fancify your table with truly standout details such as an ornate French porcelain plate, a lead crystal candelabra, and bubbly Champagne.



1 Goblet wine glass, \$20, billycotton.com 2 Veuve Clicquot Yellow Label, \$48, sherry-lehmann.com 3 Pleated linen place mat, sold only as a set of 4, \$98, pineconehill.com 4 Gorham Argento Gold Luster flatware, \$100 for one 5-piece place setting, lenox.com 5 Philippe Deshoulières Ispahan dinner plate, \$100, michaelcfina.com 6 Creative Candles 12" taper candles, \$10 each, gracioushome.com; Nachtmann Ravello candelabra, \$275, riedelusa.net 7 Festival napkin, sold only as a set of 4, \$50, sferra.com; Super Nova napkin ring, \$24 each, kimseybert.com

style  
your  
table  
for  
less

\$138

This place setting has the same elegant vibe at a fraction of the price via a colorful earthenware plate, a glass candleholder, and a bottle of prosecco.



1 Ashton wine goblet, sold only as a set of 4, \$22, oneida.com 2 Mionetto Prosecco Brut, \$16, mionettousa.com for stores 3 Hemstitch place mat, \$6, pier1.com 4 Gold flatware, \$29 for one 5-piece place setting, westelm.com 5 Voyage Mia plate, \$9, worldmarket.com 6 10" taper candles, \$1 each, hobbylobby.com; Labra candelabra, \$25, cb2.com 7 Hemstitch napkin, \$6, tag2u.com; Starburst napkin ring, sold only as a set of 4, \$20, zgallerie.com



Repeat after me:  
La-Z-Boy makes more than recliners.  
*Good.*

Swatch\_0202



**Pinterest**

Visit us at [Pinterest.com/lazboy](https://www.pinterest.com/lazboy) to start pinning your favorite pieces or this entire room.

It's a message that bears repeating. La-Z-Boy offers a whole range of comfortable, great-looking furniture, including sofas, sectionals, loveseats and more. Trust me, it's worth taking another look. One more time: La-Z-Boy makes more than recliners. [la-z-boy.com](http://la-z-boy.com)

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# the **5-ingredient**

**Sarah Richardson**, host of *Sarah 101*, shares her recipe for a room that satisfies kids *and* parents.

**a**s the ultimate common area, a family room has to offer something for everyone: space for playing, working, and, of course, TV watching. Designer and mom of two Sarah Richardson has come up with just the right mix for success. Her family room, a light-filled rectangular space on the bottom floor of her Toronto home, is where daughters Robin, 6, and Fiona, 4, have playdates and do art projects. It's also where the family gathers for movies and reading time. "I wanted a spot that the kids felt was their own," says Sarah. "At the same time, it couldn't be just a zone of toys and mess." These five simple ingredients helped her whip up a room that appeals to the whole family.



Behind the TV screen is a pretty painting.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY **PAUL COSTELLO**  
WRITTEN BY **STEELE THOMAS MARCOUX**  
STYLING BY **FRANCES BAILEY**



## **1. A huge TV**

"Despite the fact that I work in television, I don't think a TV belongs in every room," says Sarah. Instead, she suggests picking one place for TV watching and going all-in with a great big setup. The Richardsons have a ceiling-mounted projector (which you can find at a home electronics store starting at \$50), surround sound speakers, and a 6-foot-by-9-foot screen that retracts into a custom box at the push of a button.

## **2. Kid-friendly furnishings**

Instead of buying "kid" furniture, Sarah looks for grown-up pieces with dual functions. Her vintage coffee table's laminate top wipes clean easily. "The girls have tea parties there—but it'll survive as a coffee table once they outgrow the height," she says.



# family room

## 3. Light-blocking curtains

In rooms where window treatments are for adding softness rather than blocking light, Sarah uses solid fabrics or basic patterns. But here, where she often closes the curtains—for a theater effect or to add warmth—she had lined, zigzag panels custom-made, then hung them from the ceiling on a simple track. “This bold fabric has great energy,” she says.

## 5. A comfy sectional

There’s room for everyone on a sofa-plus-chaise! But steer clear of too-large sectionals that take over the room. “You need enough space to fit side tables, floor lamps, and a few other seating spots,” says Sarah. Hers measures 9 feet across and 6 feet long (at the chaise). The cushions are covered in white denim cases, which zip off and go in the wash.

## 4. A dirt-hiding rug

This Persian wool rug is soft to sit on and extremely durable, plus it has a pattern that makes sense for families (meaning, it’s stain-concealing but also sophisticated).





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# copy our **cover!**

We hit on just the right combo for a comfy curl-up spot. Follow our plan to get the look.

## the cozy formula

### a sink-into-it armchair

Ours is covered in a cotton and linen blend (soft and warm). Mohair and velvet are other plush picks.



### an upholstered ottoman

So versatile—rest your feet or set a tray of snacks on top.



### a warm wood table

This curvy number is made of rich-looking walnut.



### a textured rug

The cushiest ones are made of wool with at least a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch pile.



### a soft pillow

The one here is filled with down. It's nice on your back.



### a chunky throw

Ours is acrylic yarn. Other fluffy options: faux fur or chenille.

## WIN!

We're giving away our cover items and lots of look-alikes from the next page! Details on page 159.



**CHAIR** For a similar style, try Odette from Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams, from \$1,260, [mgbwhome.com](http://mgbwhome.com); upholstered in Panama by Manuel Canovas, Cowtan & Tout **OTTOMAN** Martin Albert Interiors custom, [martinalbert.com](http://martinalbert.com); upholstered in Rico in Rosewood by Suburban Home **PILLOW** Ninnay Suzani pillow in melon, \$575, [madelineweinrib.com](http://madelineweinrib.com) for stores **THROW** Austin throw in ochre, \$59, [potterybarn.com](http://potterybarn.com) **TABLE** Eames walnut stool from Design Within Reach, \$879, [dwr.com](http://dwr.com) **RUG** Thatch 6' x 9' rug from Design Within Reach, \$840, [dwr.com](http://dwr.com) **DRAPES** Crosshatch window panel, from \$34 each, [westelm.com](http://westelm.com) **WALL PAINT** Eggwhite by HGTV HOME by Sherwin-Williams in flat finish **TRIM PAINT** Eggwhite by HGTV HOME by Sherwin-Williams in semi gloss

# mix + match a

choose a chair



Cole in crimson mirror, \$1,049, roomandboard.com



Eton in canvas rust Sunbrella, \$949, ballarddesigns.com



Parrish in Aidan amber, \$1,595, crlaine.com

WIN IT!  
DETAILS ON  
PAGE 159.

choose an ottoman



WIN IT!  
DETAILS ON  
PAGE 159.



Dorset in red textured, \$449, homedecorators.com



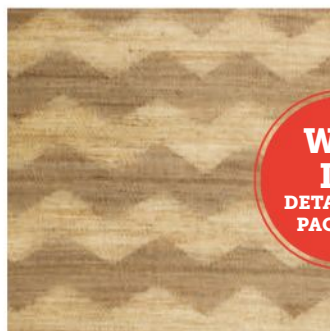
Eaton, from \$1,050, williams-sonoma.com

Eton in Malabar coral ikat, \$549, ballarddesigns.com

choose a rug



Pebbles in oatmeal 5' x 8', \$739, capelrugs.com



WIN IT!  
DETAILS ON  
PAGE 159.

Chevron jute and hemp 5' x 7', \$295, serenaandlily.com



Chevron knot in ivory 5' x 8', \$349, westelm.com



# super-cozy space

pick a pillow



Tangier,  
\$65, burke  
decor.com



Fahri, \$70,  
zgallerie  
.com



Global Bazaar  
Lamina, \$64,  
altogether  
home.com

**WIN  
IT!**

DETAILS ON  
PAGE 159.

pick a table



Bungalow 5  
Hourglass,  
\$338, layla  
grayce.com



Village,  
\$575, jayson  
home.com



Marapi,  
\$399,  
ethanallen  
.com

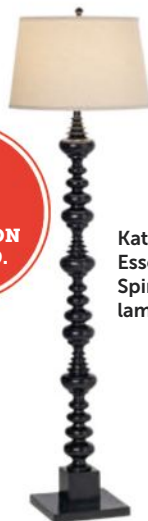
**WIN  
IT!**

DETAILS ON  
PAGE 159.

pick a lamp



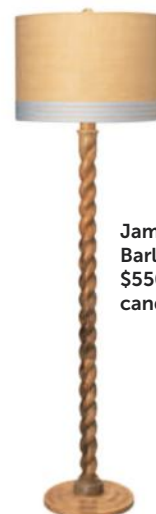
Bamboo,  
\$315, circa  
lighting.com



**WIN  
IT!**

DETAILS ON  
PAGE 159.

Kathy Ireland  
Essentials  
Spinal, \$200,  
lampsplus.com



Jamie Young Co.  
Barley Twist,  
\$550, shop  
candelabra.com



SW 6703 Frolic

# TALKING COLOR with HGTV's David Bromstad



PRESENTED BY  
**HGTV. HOME BY SHERWIN-WILLIAMS**  
COLOR AND PAINTING MADE EASY.

## HOW DO YOU DEFINE YOUR DESIGN STYLE?

**DAVID:** Colorful and quirky. I like rooms that make you smile every time you step inside.

## MY HOUSE IS TOTALLY BLAH. HELP!

**DAVID:** Saturated, bold and bright colors will make your space pop.

To spice up your kitchen, try painting the walls and cabinets contrasting colors.

Or turn one wall of your living room into a focal wall by painting it a vibrant shade.

## WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE TRICKS FOR SMALL SPACES?

**DAVID:** You can add height to a room by painting the ceiling a contrasting color. It works! And mirrors are your BFF. Hang them on a wall to create the illusion of depth. Color-wise, think cheerful, not subdued.

## WHAT'S YOUR ABSOLUTE FAVORITE COLOR?

**DAVID:** It is hard to choose just one, but I really love acid yellow green, like HGTV HOME by Sherwin-Williams 6703 Frolic from the Color Pizzazz color collection. I use it in my own home. It is the perfect shade — looks good with everything, and is happy and soothing.

## WHAT ELSE CAN I DO OTHER THAN REPAINT MY WALLS?

**DAVID:** Wallpaper and decals can be totally chic — in the right patterns. Like the new ones from HGTV HOME by Sherwin-Williams. Or you can paint a huge canvas with a fun, abstract design.

## HOW CAN I ENHANCE MY HOME'S CURB APPEAL?

**DAVID:** First impressions are everything. Put a fresh coat of paint on your front door or porch. Painting your trim can give your home that special punch so it stands out.

## WHERE DID YOU DEVELOP YOUR PASSION FOR COLOR?

**DAVID:** I was born loving color!



The Color Pizzazz collection will make your interior space pop.



These HGTV HOME by Sherwin-Williams wallpapers and decals are so fierce they're like wall art.

For fresh new ways to paint, visit  
[sherwin-williams.com/hgtvhome](http://sherwin-williams.com/hgtvhome)

Join us on



by  
**SHERWIN  
WILLIAMS**



# style tricks

## from popular catalogs

These rooms look pretty enough to live in! Check out the clever decorating moves that make them work.



### Garnet Hill

**STYLE TRICKS FROM** Wendy Thayer, public relations manager of Garnet Hill

**1** "Having balance in the bedroom—two lamps, two mirrors, two night tables—creates a peaceful environment. Same with the soothing wall color."

**2** Layering textures makes the bed look really warm and cozy. "We used solid white and cream sheets, a soft quilt, a cashmere throw, and a patterned comforter and shams for an extra comfy look." Other favorite styling tips: Spread the comforter over the bed at an angle, and casually toss, don't fold, a throw over a piece of furniture or at the foot of your bed.

**3** Rugs are a great way to make a bedroom feel more spacious. Instead of centering a single carpet under the bed, lay identical area rugs on either side of it. "This creates three separate 'areas' and stretches out the room horizontally."

**4** When you have a wood floor, even a cushy bed may not be enough to soften the hard lines. Enter the tufted, upholstered ottoman, an easy way to add a dose of plush—and a good place to take off your shoes!

**5** It seems safe to choose furniture made of the same wood, "but that can make a room look old-fashioned." A mix of white and dark pieces against a natural floor feels a lot fresher.







## BALLARD DESIGNS

**STYLE TRICKS FROM** Karen Mooney, vice president, creative of Ballard Designs

**1** To highlight a favorite piece of furniture, like a sofa, paint a square behind it that's a little wider than the furniture. "We gave our purple 'square' on the wall curved, cut-in corners, then hung taupe plaques made of lightweight urethane, which feels similar to textured clay." Notice there's no perfect

symmetry to this arrangement—just do what looks good to you.

**2** A circle of traditional-style chairs around a cylindrical table "feels elegant and intimate." Alternating chair colors makes the setting more fun, less formal.

**3** An accent color doesn't have to be bright; white can pop too.

The 12-inch-by-18-inch couch pillows here actually have major impact because they're set against a tan sofa against a lavender wall.

**4** "We love putting chandeliers in places other than the dining room, like above a group of chairs or over a coffee table. You could even put a fixture in the corner of a room."

**5** The furniture in this room is mostly classic, but the three mirrored sconces to the right of the sofa keep it from feeling fuddy-duddy. Other accents that update: the round table with mirrored medallions and a flat-weave rug rather than a plush one. "This is definitely not your grandma's living room."



## west elm

**STYLE TRICKS FROM** Vanessa Holden,  
creative director of West Elm

- 1 Just because a table fits six chairs around it doesn't mean you have to use them all. If you're a family of four, put the extra two elsewhere in the house, and the room's suddenly a lot less cluttered. If you have a solid table like this one, open-back seats make the space feel roomier, too.
- 2 Nail on the dining room table doesn't make a pretty centerpiece. But you don't have to do anything formal. Stick with the room's core accent color (red here), and vary the heights of the pieces on the table: a tall ceramic vase and low bowls, for example. "Lay a runner down any which way. It doesn't have to go straight down the middle."
- 3 You can't go wrong with clear light fixtures. They work with any design—modern, traditional, and in between. "A good general rule for hanging is that the lowest point should be at least 30 inches above the table."
- 4 "I like to go big with mirrors. They bounce light around and make the room feel larger. And leaning one instead of hanging it is less formal. Here, we angled it so it reflects the molding, which is really beautiful."
- 5 "People are intimidated by dark paint, but the truth is, it makes the walls recede so the room looks bigger. In a dining room, dark gray like this is calming—and almost any bright color looks great against it."



## Calico

**STYLE TRICKS FROM** Julie Mihuc,  
merchandising manager of Calico

- 1 "These linen Roman shades have slats sewn in to give them subtle horizontal lines." The white grosgrain trim customizes them even more. "Pretty window coverings should be shown off. Keep them at least a third of the way down during the day."
- 2 Two strong colors in a small space can be too much, but they work if you use them in unequal amounts. "I like the 80-20 rule. Choose one predominant shade (orange) and pop in a second color (blue)."
- 3 "Accent chairs without arms give the impression the room is airier. And on the sofa and chairs, the exposed wood legs make the space feel lighter than skirted styles would."
- 4 Instead of forcing a bulky coffee table in a little room, slide a side table in instead (it's a perfect size for this love seat). Pick a table that's substantial enough to serve its purpose: to hold a drink or two, a book, a bowl. This 20-inch square is reachable from any seat.
- 5 "Groupings of odd-numbered accent pillows usually look best. Anchor the love seat or sofa with two big pillows that are the same size, then put the smaller one between them."



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# step up your stairs

They're just begging for some pizzazz! Try one of these ideas.



## Paper the risers

Yup, that's wallpaper! Since the space you're covering is small, "choose a bold print with impact," says designer Helen Tucker, who decorated this staircase with Orla Kiely paper ([orkiely.com](http://orkiely.com)). Helen measured often to ensure the pattern lined up, but says the rest of the project is nearly as simple as papering a wall: Cut the paper to fit, paste it onto the risers, trim any extra with a utility knife, then coat the paper with a water-based sealer to keep it scuff-free.

### TIP:

Number decals can also give you this look and are easy to apply. Try 3-inch-tall vinyl ones (\$25 for a set of 17, [ozavinylgraphics.com](http://ozavinylgraphics.com)).



## Paint a numbered runner

This stairway is tucked in the back of the house, so blogger Sue De Chiara ([zhush.com](http://zhush.com)) figured she could go wild and turn the barely used space into a "fun little spot." She had a pro paint a nautical-inspired, pale blue runner with a taupe border (Misty Blue and Mohave Desert, both by Benjamin Moore) and numbers on the risers using stencils. The final touch: a handmade banister made by threading thick rope from a hardware store through four drapery brackets.

## Make a rainbow

"These stairs lead up to kids' rooms, so we went to town making them fun," says Alessandro Bardi of London's Dos Architects, who coated the steps in various colors (five coats each, plus a glossy sealer). The homeowners chose seven wildly different hues, from grass green to violet, but for a more restrained look, a primary palette of red, blue, and yellow works as long as you follow a pattern.



### TIP:

Standard-size tiles probably won't fit perfectly on risers, so expect to pay for professional tile cutting with this project.

## Tile them

They're a hallmark of Spanish-style houses, but you don't have to live in a hacienda to use tiles on a staircase. For a "graphic punch," Los Angeles architect Tim Barber covered just the risers with alternating rows of striped and patterned terra-cotta tiles. For a similar look, try Vives tiles (Holt Crema floral and Terrades Basalto black and white, both \$29 per square meter, [vivesceramica.com](http://vivesceramica.com) for stores).



## Stripe the wall

In this entryway, stylist Robin Collingwood lined the steps with a deep tangerine woven runner, then highlighted the curve of the staircase with paint (Tangerine Dream by Dunn-Edwards). She used painter's tape as a guide to make a 7-inch-wide stripe that follows the curve of the molding.



### SHOW US YOUR STAIRS!

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# vern knows coffee tables

HGTV *Design Star* judge **Vern Yip**  
shares 10 tips for finding just the right piece.



**TABLE  
AND  
STORAGE  
IN ONE!**

Frasier table,  
50"W x 28"D x 20"H, \$549,  
lanefurniture.com for stores



**t**he coffee table is the last piece of the living room puzzle, chosen after all the seating. You have to pick just the right one to fill the gap. Even designers have a tough time, because the options seem endless. Brass base with a glass top? Round wood with tapered legs? Drawers or no drawers? For my own living room, I pushed two glass coffee tables with stainless steel bases together because I couldn't find just one table in the right size! Hope these hints help you pick your perfect puzzle piece.

**1 THE IDEAL DISTANCE FROM THE EDGE OF THE SOFA TO THE EDGE OF THE TABLE IS 18 INCHES**—close enough to reach for your drink or put a magazine down, but far enough to stretch out your legs. People often leave too much or not enough room. If you have other seats in the room that you want to reach the coffee table, follow the same 18-inch rule.

**2 THINK ABOUT YOUR ROOM'S MAIN PASSAGEWAY**, and leave at least 30 inches from the outer edge of the coffee table to the TV stand or media cabinet. If you have a narrow room, you can get away with 24 inches.

**3 A COFFEE TABLE'S HEIGHT IS KEY.** The surface should be about one or two inches lower than your sofa seat. Standard tables are 16 to 18 inches high, but if you have a higher couch or entertain a lot, consider a taller table—20 or 21 inches—so it's easy for guests to set down their dessert plate or cut a piece of cheese.

**4 STRIKE A BALANCE BETWEEN YOUR SOFA AND COFFEE TABLE STYLES.** If you have a plush, solid-color couch, try a glass table on a leggy chrome frame. If your couch is slim and more streamlined, you're fine with a chunkier table, maybe one with a thick wood top and solid base.

**5 IF YOU HAVE KIDS, AN OVAL OR ROUND TABLE IS A SMART CHOICE,** since sharp corners and little ones aren't a good match. And if you need extra storage (like most families do), a table with one shelf or more underneath is a great idea.

**6 GLASS TABLES ARE LESS BULKY THAN WOOD OR METAL** and easier to wipe down. Plus, if you can't find a coaster, it's OK to put your drink on glass. I have a glass table in my family room to avoid covering up our beautiful rug. Lucite and acrylic are other good options.

**7 WOOD BRINGS WARMTH TO A SPACE,** but since it's heavy, I prefer wood coffee tables in large rooms with high ceilings and lots of windows. If your room doesn't fit that description but you still want wood, choose a long, narrow table so it doesn't look bulky.

**8 IF YOUR ROOM HAS A LOT OF WOOD IN IT ALREADY,** a metal table or a glass table with a metal base can be a nice complement. But avoid tables that mix metals, such as brass with chrome. They can look dated fast.

**9 LACQUERED COFFEE TABLES COME IN EVERY COLOR IMAGINABLE.** If you choose a bold hue, like tangerine, keep the sofa and side chairs more neutral to let the table sing. Then add a few room accents in similar tones, such as orange or red.

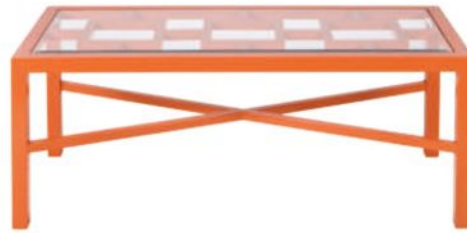
**10 DETAILING CAN MAKE A COFFEE TABLE SPECIAL,** but a piece with, say, hammered metal or wood cutouts needs room to breathe. It's best with a solid-color sofa and a rug that's not heavily patterned. You don't want everything in the room screaming for attention.

## COFFEE TABLES FOR EVERY BUDGET

COMES WITH TWO BASKETS



Morgan table, 44"W x 32"D x 19"H, \$449, ballarddesigns.com



Worlds Away Winter Harbor table, 45"W x 20"D x 18"H, \$895, tonichome.com



P7 round table, 36"D x 16½"H, \$299, cb2.com



Isala round table, 35½"D x 18½"H, \$199, ikea.com



Parsons table, 48"W x 24"D x 18"H, \$209, homedecorators.com



Slim table, 46"W x 22"D x 16"H, \$379, roomandboard.com

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Cachet table, 49½"W x 28"D x 18"H, \$399, thomasville.com for stores



Zuri round table, 37¾"D x 16"H, \$599, crateandbarrel.com



Water's Edge table, 50"W x 28"D x 19"H, \$659, hgtvhomefurniture.com for stores





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# shop this room

HGTV Design Star winner **Danielle Colding** created this hot-hued living room on her new show. Copy the look—it's totally affordable!



**S**tart with something you love. That's the styling strategy Danielle swears by whenever she makes over a space. In this room, one of the homeowners' paintings (above) inspired a fiery wall color. "Then, to balance it out, I chose a cream microfiber sofa and two honey-color leather side chairs," says Danielle. "The curtains have a subtle zebra print, so they're more interesting than a solid, but they still read neutral." The exotic, graphic rug ties all the shades in the room together. Done!



## curtain fabric

Cotton Nomad,  
\$18 per yard,  
ballarddesigns.com



## wool rug

Charcoal Trinket  
5' x 8' rug, \$399,  
homedecorators.com



## armless chair

Honey leather  
slipper chair, \$399,  
westelm.com





## fun decorating

**lamp** Murray Feiss  
Gannon ebony lamp,  
\$252, bellacor.com



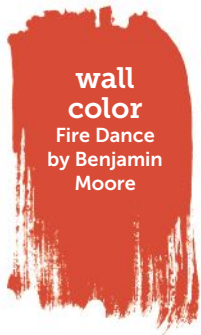
**mango  
wood table**  
Rustic storage side table,  
\$249, westelm.com



**accent  
pillows**  
Ombre sienna  
pillow, \$69,  
ethanallen.com



Milano gold  
pillow, \$40,  
pillowdecor.com



**wall  
color**  
Fire Dance  
by Benjamin  
Moore

**porcelain  
bowl**

Persephone  
bowl, \$110,  
jonathanadler.com



**78" sofa**  
Loring sofa, \$1,099,  
roomandboard.com



**lightweight  
side table**  
Martini table, \$90,  
allmodern.com

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**cookie cutters**  
Donkey and elephant,  
cookiecuttercompany.com

**\$1**  
**halloween napkins**  
Spooky party napkins,  
set of 18, Target stores

**\$2**  
**lacquer frame**  
Emery 4" x 6" frame,  
worldmarket.com



**\$49**  
**wall organizer**  
I Could've Bin A Container wall  
organizer, landofnod.com

**\$30**  
**2-quart pitcher**  
Le Creuset dijon pitcher,  
wayfair.com

**\$28**  
**cloth napkins**  
Ikat napkins, set of 4,  
cwonder.com



**\$50**  
**embroidered pillow**  
Scarf Paisley pillow,  
echodesign.com

**\$65**  
**living room lamp**  
Nate Berkus Sculpted Branch base and shade  
(available October 21), target.com

**\$109**  
**3-drawer chest**  
Brimnes,  
IKEA stores

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**fireplace matches**  
Matches,  
illumecandles.com



**\$24**  
**trio of tools**  
Handy craft kit,  
wisteria.com



**\$20**  
**soap pump**  
Calypso ceramic pump,  
echodesign.com



**\$15**  
**bread bowl**  
Tabletops Unlimited  
mini basket, macys.com



**\$184**  
**accent chair**  
Angelo: Home Bradstreet settee in  
antique floral bird, hayneedle.com



**\$199**  
**wool rug**  
Genevieve Gorder Moor  
3' x 5' rug, capelrugs.com for stores



**\$250**  
**pair of tables**  
Greek Key nesting tables,  
set of 2, pier1.com

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# Thanksgiving with a twist

Break out of the same-old, same-old with these ideas to shake up the holiday.

gourds +  
napkins =  
turkey  
centerpiece!



## fun decorating



“What’s better than one kind of mashed potatoes? Three! We serve classic, gorgonzola, and garlic.”

—John Colaneri, *Kitchen Cousins*  
For recipes, go to [hgtv.com/magazine](http://hgtv.com/magazine).



“Cover the kids’ table with kraft paper, then use crayons to write each child’s name and draw fun frames around the plates. Leave the crayons out so the kids can doodle during dinner.”

—Cortney Novogratz, *Home by Novogratz*

“Everyone always wants the wishbone, but there’s only one! So I buy these recycled plastic wishbones and attach one to each rolled-up napkin with some copper wire. That way no one gets left out of the fun.”

—Sabrina Soto, *The High Low Project*  
Wishbones, \$8.50 for set of 10, [luckybreakwishbone.com](http://luckybreakwishbone.com)



“Your hostess probably doesn’t need a gift, but I bet her dog would love one! Bring a cute nonsqueaky toy to keep him occupied.”

—Nate Berkus, designer  
Eggplant, \$15, [wagsandwiggles.etsy.com](http://wagsandwiggles.etsy.com); carrot, \$7, [olivegreendog.com](http://olivegreendog.com)



“For my centerpiece, I frame black-and-white copies of photos that show important memories from the year. Then I arrange them down the center of the table.”

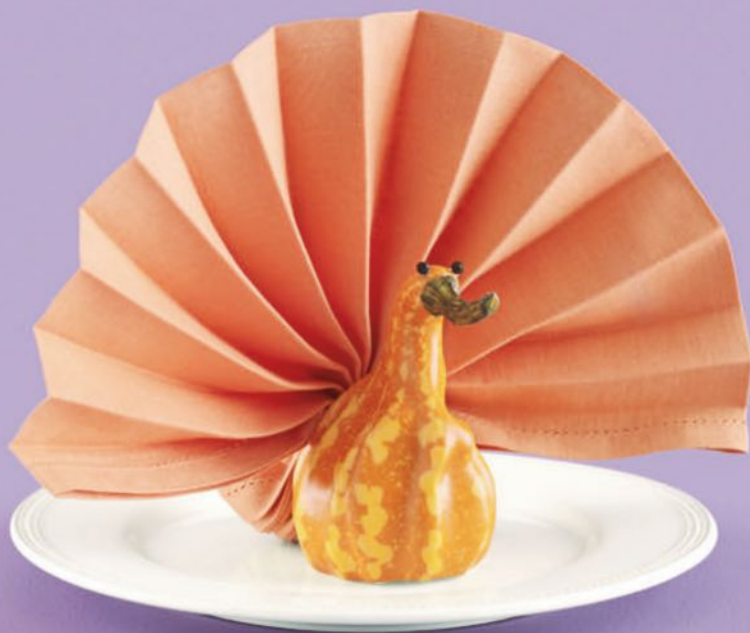
—Vern Yip, *HGTV Design Star*





“How cute is this little guy? To make it, cut the bottom off a gourd so it sits flat on a plate. Glue on peppercorn ‘eyes’ and pin a cloth napkin, starched and ironed accordian-style, behind it to look like tail feathers.”

—Sabrina Soto, *The High Low Project*



“I like to host a casual brunch rather than dinner. I’ll make pancakes with cranberry relish and a cranberry spritzer for toasting.”

—Jeanine Hayes, blogger, [aphrochic.blogspot.com](http://aphrochic.blogspot.com)

“Instead of decorating your table with one big centerpiece, give each guest his or her own small arrangement. Buy a bouquet of flowers, then divvy up the blooms into juice glasses and put one at each place setting.”

—Nate Berkus, designer



“The day before Thanksgiving, let kids draw on ceramic tiles with paint pens, bake them in the oven to set the design, then use them as trivets. It’s a sweet addition to the table.”

—Taniya Nayak, *House Hunters on Vacation*

**Pebeo Porcelaine 150 paint markers, \$4.50 each, [dickblick.com](http://dickblick.com)**



“I’ve got a great Thanksgiving playlist—it starts off mellow, then gets upbeat after dinner.”

—Genevieve Gorder, *Dear Genevieve*

Download it at [hgtv.com/magazine](http://hgtv.com/magazine).



## fun decorating



“Decorate the table with autumn place mats. Have kids tape leaves to construction paper, then get the sheets laminated at a copy shop.”

—Emily Henderson, *Secrets From a Stylist*

“Have a harvest hunt. It's like an Easter egg hunt for Thanksgiving. Give each child a basket and let them search for gourds you've hidden around the house or yard. Whoever finds the golden gourd (the one you sprayed with gold paint) wins a prize!”

—Camille Styles, blogger, [camillestyles.com](http://camillestyles.com)



“No one likes using a soggy hand towel in the bathroom. I set out pretty paper hand towels for guests on a tray instead. It's a small gesture that's greatly appreciated.”

—Sabrina Soto, *The High Low Project*



“Before dinner, set up a leftover station in the kitchen with kraft paper takeout boxes and cute stick-on labels so guests can take food home.”

—Jessica Jackson and Monica Mangin, bloggers, [eastcoastcreativeblog.com](http://eastcoastcreativeblog.com)

Bio Pak takeout boxes, \$7 for set of 10, [shopsweetlulu.com](http://shopsweetlulu.com)



“These stuffing balls are a huge hit. They're just fried sausage rolled in prepared stuffing and fried again. I serve them with cranberry dipping sauce.”

—Meg Caswell, *Meg's Great Rooms*  
For recipe, go to [hgtv.com/magazine](http://hgtv.com/magazine).





“While guests are watching football, I put out a bowl of my maple chili popcorn. It's the perfect sweet-and-salty snack to munch on.”

—Jeff Mauro, Food Network's *Sandwich King*  
For recipe, go to [hgtv.com/magazine](http://hgtv.com/magazine).

“In November we write down things that we're grateful for, put the papers in a glass jar, then read them aloud together. You can also do this on Thanksgiving day so your guests can join in.”

—Sherry and John Petersik, bloggers, [younghouselove.com](http://younghouselove.com)



“My next-day sandwich is downright debaucherous. I fry patties of potatoes and stuffing, then load them onto bread with turkey, gravy, and cranberry sauce.”

—Genevieve Gorder, *Dear Genevieve*  
For recipe, go to [hgtv.com/magazine](http://hgtv.com/magazine).



“People will actually eat their veggies if you put them in individual cups. Fill each glass with your favorite dip, then add sliced carrots, celery sticks, and pepper strips.”

—Dina Manzo, *Dina's Party*



“Forget about using matching dishes. Pick up a variety of vintage plates at thrift stores and make a game of it. Give a prize to the guest who gets the turkey design.”

—Cortney Novogratz, *Home by Novogratz*



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# real estate spy



## STONE COLONIAL

PHILADELPHIA, PA

5 BR, 3½ BA, 2,900 sq. ft., built in 1927

- Original crown molding and built-ins
- Updated kitchen with new Corian counters and appliances
- Finished third story
- French doors open onto a covered side porch

AGENT: MARIA QUATTRONE, COLDWELL BANKER PREFERRED

### WHAT'S IT COST?

- [A] \$475,000
- [B] \$560,900
- [C] \$682,000

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# G U E S S T H E P R I C E



## ELEGANT BRICK

### PAPILLION, NE

4 BR, 3½ BA, 2,908 sq. ft.,  
built in 2006

- Custom kitchen with birch cabinets and granite counters
- Adjacent to a golf course
- Less than a mile from hiking trails and schools

AGENT: JAN SCHNEEKLOTH, DEEB REALTY

#### WHAT'S IT COST?

[A] \$198,500  
[B] \$347,000  
[C] \$425,000



## COUNTRY RETREAT

### CUMBERLAND, RI

4 BR, 2 BA + two ½ BA, 3,897 sq. ft.,  
built in 1993

- Billiard and game room
- Second-story studio with private deck and built-in storage
- Large deck and gazebo in backyard

AGENT: JANICE GEDDES, RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

#### WHAT'S IT COST?

[A] \$354,900  
[B] \$490,000  
[C] \$660,000



## DOWNTOWN CHARMER

### CHATTANOOGA, TN

3 BR, 2½ BA, 1,485 sq. ft.,  
built in 2006

- Covered front porch
- Laminate wood floors on first story
- Set on a corner lot a few minutes' drive from restaurants, schools, and a community center

AGENT: ELISHA WOODEN, SELECT REALTY PROFESSIONALS

#### WHAT'S IT COST?

[A] \$63,900  
[B] \$89,500  
[C] \$114,000



## HISTORIC VICTORIAN

### DES MOINES, IA

5 BR, 2 BA, 4,066 sq. ft.,  
built in 1875

- Original wood floors, mantels, pocket doors, and tile
- New exterior paint and garage
- Located in a historic district

AGENT: ROB LANGLOSS, KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

#### WHAT'S IT COST?

[A] \$109,900  
[B] \$225,000  
[C] \$399,000





## ARTS & CRAFTS INSPIRED

### MINNEAPOLIS, MN

4 BR, 3½ BA, 2,835 sq. ft.,  
built in 2004

- Gourmet eat-in kitchen
- Radiant-heated hardwood floors
- Less than a mile to a lake

AGENT: ROBERT LAMSON, COLDWELL  
BANKER BURNET

#### WHAT'S IT COST?

**[A]** \$502,000  
**[B]** \$749,900  
**[C]** \$860,000



## SPANISH COLONIAL PEORIA, AZ

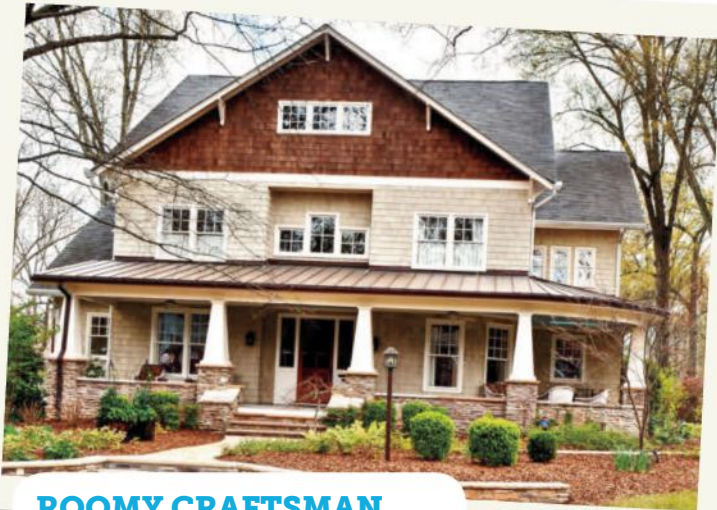
2 BR, 2 BA, 1,874 sq. ft.,  
built in 2006

- Located on a golf resort
- Paver patio with fire pit and  
access to putting green
- Optional third bedroom

AGENT: FRED LA MONICA, THE FOCUSPOINTE  
TEAM

#### WHAT'S IT COST?

**[A]** \$220,000  
**[B]** \$348,900  
**[C]** \$490,000



## ROOMY CRAFTSMAN CHARLOTTE, NC

5 BR, 5 BA + two ½ BA, 7,000 sq. ft.,  
built in 2002

- Wraparound front porch
- Media room and climate-controlled  
wine room
- Slate patio with built-in grill

AGENT: JIM FAGAN, COTTINGHAM CHALK HAYES REALTORS

#### WHAT'S IT COST?

**[A]** \$933,900  
**[B]** \$1,230,000  
**[C]** \$1,795,000



## CUTE RANCHER SAN JOSE, CA

3 BR, 2 BA, 1,779 sq. ft.,  
built in 1948

- Refinished oak floors
- New high-efficiency water  
heater and HVAC system
- Detached office and workshop
- 10-minute walk to a park

AGENT: CASSIDY MCINTIRE, SERENO GROUP

#### WHAT'S IT COST?

**[A]** \$645,000  
**[B]** \$879,000  
**[C]** \$1,230,000



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A Family Company



# 10 reno, no-no's

Fixer-upper twins **Jonathan and Drew Scott** help you avoid the biggest remodeling mishaps to save money and hike up your home value.

**Property  
Brothers  
to the  
rescue!**



1

## Mismeasuring for cabinets

This is one of the costliest mistakes the Brothers see. "People buy kitchen cabinets, have them installed, then realize their fridge doesn't fit," says Jonathan. The fail-safe: Measure and remeasure. "We always say, 'Measure 10 times and cut once.' Print out specs for the appliances you're using and compare them to the plans for the cabinets with the cabinet installer."

Jonathan, left, is a licensed contractor, and Drew is a real estate agent.





## Choosing the cheapest contractor

"The lowest bid never equals the best job," says Jonathan, who recommends bringing in at least three contractors and getting written estimates from each. "Some give cheap quotes just to get the job, then tack things on or cut corners and install low-quality products." The written estimate should include details (e.g., exact cabinets, hardware, flooring, and install costs, not just "new room"), a waste removal plan, permit costs, insurance, general contractor fee, an explanation of how design changes are handled, and the warranty on the work. If your estimate doesn't include these, the contractor is either not very thorough or he's underestimating the project.

# 3

## Lowballing your budget

Surprises inevitably pop up and then snowball during a renovation. "Say you're installing a backsplash: You might damage the wall and have to replace some of the drywall. Then you see inside the drywall and find electrical issues, and before you know it, you're dealing with more than just a new backsplash," says Drew. "I always tell people to set aside 15% of the total project cost—even more for older homes—for unexpected expenses."



# 4

## Insisting on granite countertops

True, it's a popular pick, but granite isn't the only option for the kitchen, says Jonathan. "Choosing a different material for the countertops can save you more money than anything else in the kitchen." The Brothers' nongranite picks: butcher block, plate steel, or a nice laminate. "Laminate is less durable than a solid-surface counter, but some choices look a lot like real granite."

# 5

**Being afraid to change the layout of a bathroom**  
"Moving a toilet, shower, or sink isn't really that difficult. Don't live with an awkward bathroom just because you think it's cost-prohibitive to reconfigure it," says Jonathan.



# 6

## Assuming you want hardwood floors

They're not practical for everyone. "Pets' nails can damage hardwood very quickly, and kids mean more wear and tear too," says Drew. For busy houses, the Brothers suggest single-board laminate. It has a similar high-end look but is a lot more durable.







## 9 Ignoring a floor drain in the laundry room

It's required by code in most areas, but some people still omit it. "If the washing machine hose ever breaks, you'd flood your house. A floor drain directs the water into your home's main drain system," says Drew. And don't try a DIY installation—you need a plumber. "If you install it incorrectly, you'll have soap suds coming up in the kitchen sink or bathtub drain."

## 7 Making your kitchen too trendy

"The bolder your kitchen, the quicker it will go out of style, bringing down your home's resale value," says Drew. Other kitchen choices you may later regret: overdoing it on appliances (wine chiller, double oven, rice cooker) at the expense of storage and counter space, and shoving an island in when there's not enough room. "If your space doesn't allow for at least 36 inches of clearance between the island and the other cabinets, skip it."

## 8 Skimping on things you can't see

"For example, we always recommend a bathroom membrane system, which goes under tiles to prevent them from popping and cracking, and keeps water from getting into the substructure," Jonathan says. "I tell clients, 'If you're spending \$15,000 on a bathroom, spend an extra \$1,000 to guarantee you'll never have a mold problem.'" Also worth it: energy-efficient windows.

## 10

### Not ordering extra flooring

"We typically buy 20% extra since flooring is prone to cuts and breakage during installation, and there's no guarantee you'll be able to find an exact match if you need to order more," says Jonathan. "Major retailers often let you return unopened boxes for a refund, so you shouldn't get stuck with too much material." It's also nice to have extra in case of damage down the road.



# what life costs in...

## PHOENIX, AZ

Population1,524,601

Median home price\$110,000

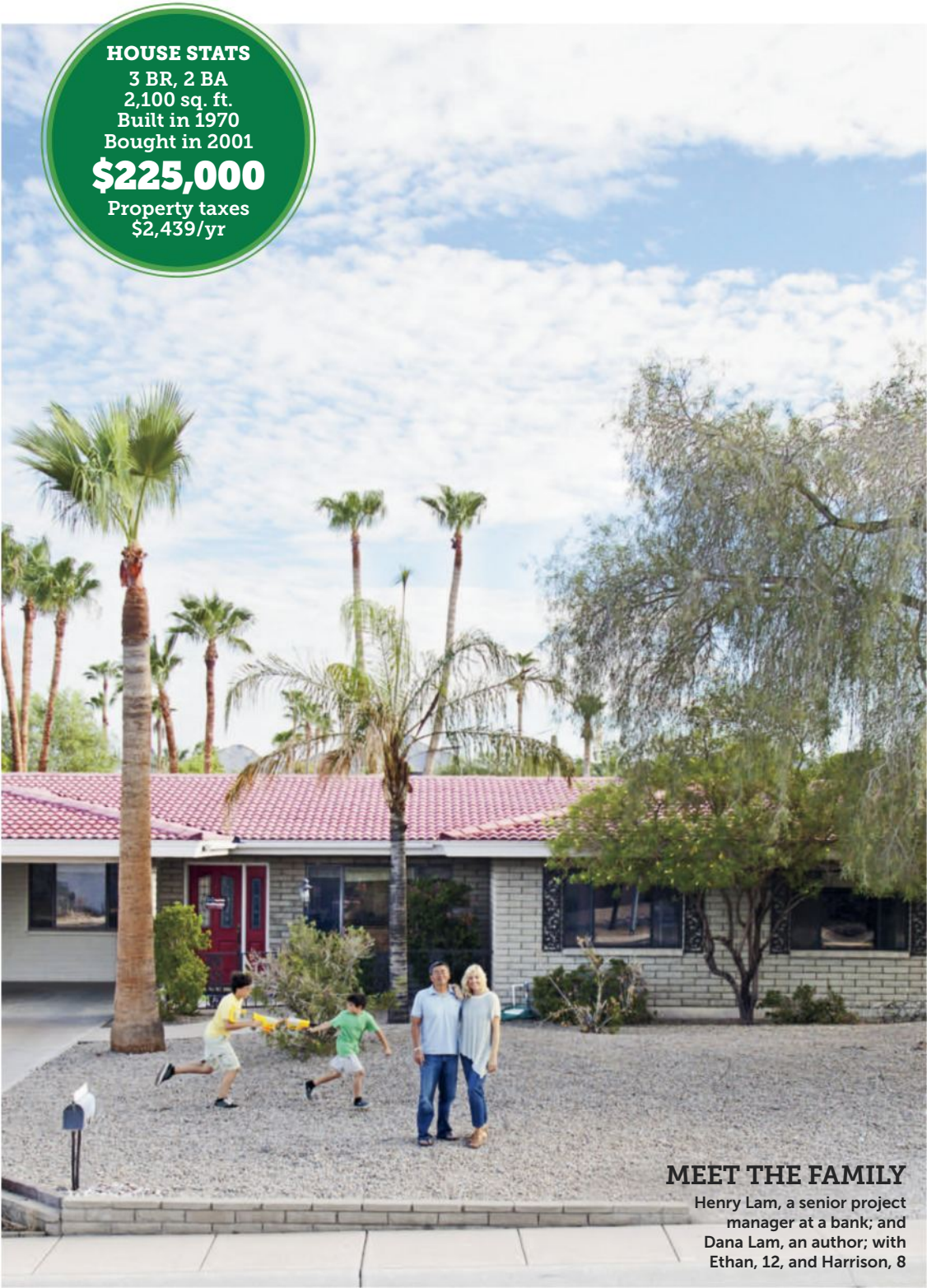
Median household income\$60,154

Real estate report

“Prices have come down in the past eight months. A three-bedroom, two-bathroom house in a nice Phoenix neighborhood starts around \$180,000.” —Jim Wosachlo, Realty One Group

### THE BILL PILE

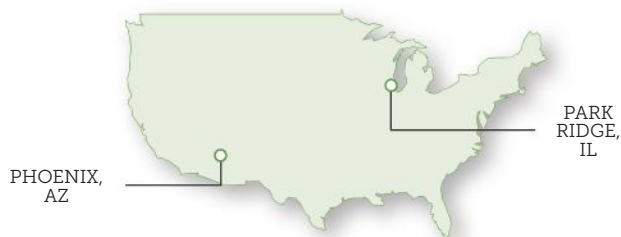
- HALF GALLON OF HORIZON ORGANIC MILK.....\$3.89
- FROZEN 20-POUND BUTTERBALL TURKEY .....\$29.80
- GALLON OF REGULAR GAS ....\$3.22
- DOG VET VISIT WITH NO SHOTS .....\$46
- KID’S HAIRCUT .....\$16
- BEST-SELLING HOT DOG AT TOP-RATED JOINT.....\$6
- for a “Lady dog” at Short Leash Hot Dogs
- ADULT TICKET TO ZOO .....\$20
- HOUSE CLEANING SERVICE (ONE STAFFER) .....\$34/hr
- ONE-YEAR TUITION (AND FEES) FOR STATE UNIVERSITY .....\$9,724
- at Arizona State University
- ONE SEASON OF LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL FOR AN 8-YEAR-OLD.....\$40
- NASCAR EVENT TICKET .....from \$15
- for the Great Clips 200 at the Phoenix International Raceway
- ANNUAL NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION.....\$228.24
- for *The Arizona Republic*



**MEET THE FAMILY**  
Henry Lam, a senior project manager at a bank; and Dana Lam, an author; with Ethan, 12, and Harrison, 8



Meet two families who live in two very different parts of the country. See how their expenses compare.



**HOUSE STATS**  
 3 BR, 3 BA  
 3,500 sq. ft.  
 Built in 1929  
 Bought in 2010  
**\$588,000**  
 Property taxes  
 \$9,000/yr

## MEET THE FAMILY

Steve Jann, an environmental scientist; and Jan Wolfensperger, an urban planner; with Julia, 13; Allison, 16; and Louie, their Boston terrier

## PARK RIDGE, IL

(16 MILES FROM CHICAGO)

**Population** 37,668

**Median home price** \$329,500

**Median household income** \$106,533

### Real estate report

“The midpriced market in Park Ridge is stable. A three-bedroom home that was \$600,000 five years ago would cost nearly the same today.” —Nancy Santopadre, Century 21 Ambassador

## THE BILL PILE

**HALF GALLON OF HORIZON ORGANIC MILK**..... \$4.99  
**FROZEN 20-POUND BUTTERBALL TURKEY**..... \$39.80  
**GALLON OF REGULAR GAS** .... \$3.75  
**DOG VET VISIT WITH NO SHOTS** .....\$54.50  
**KID'S HAIRCUT** .....\$22  
**BEST-SELLING HOT DOG AT TOP-RATED JOINT**..... \$2.40 for an “everything” hot dog at Tasty Pup  
**ADULT TICKET TO ZOO** .....Free  
**HOUSE CLEANING SERVICE (ONE STAFFER)** .....\$25/hr  
**ONE-YEAR TUITION (AND FEES) FOR STATE UNIVERSITY**.....\$13,938 at University of Illinois at Chicago  
**ONE SEASON OF LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL FOR AN 8-YEAR-OLD**.....\$70  
**NASCAR EVENT TICKET** ..... from \$40 for the Dollar General 300 at the Chicagoland Speedway  
**ANNUAL NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION**.....\$143 for the *Chicago Tribune*



# TACo h h h h h

## ★ NIGHT ★



### RO\*TEL® *Rockin' Tacos*

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1. Cook your beef or chicken in a skillet, then drain
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3. Serve with your regular toppings and a second can of RO\*TEL® (drained) on top

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# *Make Your* **TACO NIGHT** *Even More* **TERRIFIC** *with...*



## *Drunken Refried Beans*

### YOUR SHOPPING LIST

- 2 slices bacon
- 3 tablespoons frozen chopped onion
- 1 can (10 oz) **RO\*TEL**® Mexican Diced Tomatoes with Lime Juice & Cilantro, drained
- 1 can (16 oz) Rosarita® Traditional Refried Beans
- ½ cup Mexican beer
- ¼ cup crumbled queso fresco cheese

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Chop bacon and place in large skillet; heat 1 minute over medium-high heat. Add onion; cook another minute.
2. Add drained tomatoes, beans and beer; stir until combined. Bring mixture to a boil.
3. Reduce heat to low; cook 10 minutes or to desired thickness, stirring occasionally. Sprinkle with cheese just before serving.



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# ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN \$5,000



Dear Friends,

Our goal at *HGTV Magazine* is to create a new kind of home/lifestyle magazine full of fun decorating ideas, easy makeovers, and real-life advice for a happier home.

Now we're dying to know...what do you think of this issue? What do you like most? Is there anything you would change? Go to [octobersurvey.hgtv.com/magazine](http://octobersurvey.hgtv.com/magazine) and share your thoughts. Your opinions will help make *HGTV Magazine* the best it can be.

For participating, you will automatically be entered for a chance to win \$5,000. Think of all the amazing makeovers that could buy!

On behalf of everyone here at *HGTV Magazine*, we hope you enjoy our magazine, and we look forward to hearing from you.

*Sara*

Sara Peterson  
Editor in Chief  
*HGTV Magazine*



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magazine](http://octobersurvey.hgtv.com/magazine)

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. READER FEEDBACK SWEEPSTAKES. SPONSORED BY HEARST COMMUNICATIONS, INC. BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2012, AT 12:01 A.M. (ET) THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2012, AT 11:59 P.M. (ET). GO TO [WWW.OCTOBERSURVEY.HGTV.COM/MAGAZINE](http://WWW.OCTOBERSURVEY.HGTV.COM/MAGAZINE) AND COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE ENTRY FORM PURSUANT TO THE ON-SCREEN INSTRUCTIONS. ONE (1) GRAND PRIZE WINNER WILL RECEIVE \$5,000, ONE (1) SECOND-PLACE WINNER WILL RECEIVE A \$500 AMERICAN EXPRESS GIFT CARD, AND TEN (10) RUNNER-UP WINNERS WILL RECEIVE A \$100 AMERICAN EXPRESS GIFT CARD. ODDS OF WINNING DEPEND ON THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE ENTRIES RECEIVED. MUST BE A LEGAL RESIDENT OF THE 50 UNITED STATES AND D.C., PUERTO RICO, OR CANADA WHO HAS REACHED THE AGE OF MAJORITY IN HIS OR HER STATE, TERRITORY, OR PROVINCE OF RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ENTRY. VOID IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC AND WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW. SWEEPSTAKES SUBJECT TO COMPLETE OFFICIAL RULES AVAILABLE AT [WWW.OCTOBERSURVEY.HGTV.COM/MAGAZINE](http://WWW.OCTOBERSURVEY.HGTV.COM/MAGAZINE).



# mission makeover

## BIG PUNCH with little pots of paint

Mini sample jars  
can pull off major  
transformations.

### Color your chair spindles

Hold an angled 1/2- or 3/4-inch craft brush parallel to the spindles and dab the paint at the top and bottom of each one to avoid splattering the chair's frame. Then slowly paint the middle of the spindles with long, smooth strokes. Wipe off any drips right away with a damp paper towel.

**POTS:** Sunshine, Pear Green, and Utah Sky by Benjamin Moore



## mission makeover

### Dress up dresser drawers

No need to buy multiple paints—you need just one color and white. First pull out the drawers and unscrew the knobs. Use undiluted color to paint the front of one drawer. For the other drawers, mix the color into white until you get the shades you want. Try 3 ounces of color with 8 ounces of white for a medium shade, and 1 ounce of color with 8 ounces of white for the lightest shade. Let dry, then reattach hardware and replace drawers.

**POTS:** Thermal Spring and Extra White by Sherwin-Williams



### Add splash to a set of frames

First paint all the frames white and let dry completely. Then add pops of color by painting photo corners or highlighting edges with stripes. Use the smallest straight-edge craft brush you can find. Work slowly, and if your painting hand strays a little, wipe off mistakes right away with a damp paper towel.

**POTS:** China White, Two to Tango, Magical Merlin, and Asparagus by Olympic



### Make a chair's legs pop

Unscrew the legs from your chair before you paint. If you can't detach them, or if your chair has a wooden base like ours does, apply plenty of painter's tape around the seat to protect it. Then paint. Once dry, reattach the legs or remove the tape.

**POT:** Dragon Fire by Behr



### SHOW US YOUR PAINTING PROJECT!

Send us a photo ([hgtvmagazine@hearst.com](mailto:hgtvmagazine@hearst.com)) and it could be featured in an upcoming issue!



## Brighten a stool (two ways!)

Make your own mix-and-match set by painting just the base of one stool and just the seat of another. We didn't bother painting the underside of the seat since it's out of sight.

**POT:** Rose Dust by Valspar



## Turn a metal pan into a cool tray

Wipe down the tray with rubbing alcohol and a cloth. Use a triangular ruler (a.k.a. a set square) and painter's tape to block out a zigzag design. To ensure the paint will stick, scuff up the exposed metal lightly with sandpaper, then wipe clean. Apply primer made for metal and let dry. Paint, let dry, then slowly peel off the tape.

**POTS:** Yellow Raincoat, Razzle Dazzle, and Tropical Turquoise by Benjamin Moore



## Highlight a white lamp

Use an artist's brush with rounded bristles for this project. First paint the base, directing the color in the grooves of the carved details. While it dries, work on the shade. Follow its frame with short strokes to create the neatest lines.

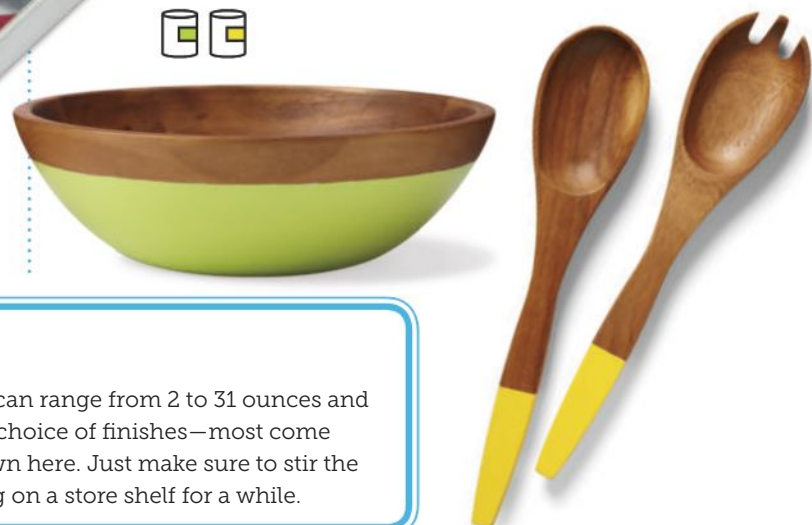
**POT:** Tropical Splash by Behr



## Give salad stuff a color-dipped look

Mark where you want the color to go with painter's tape, leaving a few inches between the paint and the part of the servers that will touch food, for safety. Since the wood will likely be oiled, prime it with a formula made for glossy surfaces like plastic. Paint, let dry, then remove the tape.

**POTS:** Lime Green and Fuzzy Navel by Olympic



### ABOUT THE POTS...

Almost all paint companies offer sample containers, which can range from 2 to 31 ounces and usually cost between \$4 and \$10. You won't have much of a choice of finishes—most come in satin only—but that will work fine for all the projects shown here. Just make sure to stir the paint thoroughly before using since it may have been sitting on a store shelf for a while.

# from everyday

The dining room gets more use during the next few months than it does the whole rest of the year. Help it get dolled up!

**m**ost folks don't pay much attention to their dining room until they're about to host a big holiday meal (or meals!). A major overhaul is totally unnecessary, of course, but a few key upgrades can make the space feel appropriately dressed for guests. Baton Rouge, LA, homeowner Lisa Davis Gilly has perfected the transformation in her lovely dining room. Just about every night, it serves as the family's gathering spot for comfort food and catch-up time. But when the holiday season gets under way, Lisa fancies up the space with some choice moves.





# to holiday



## bookshelves

Normally lots of books and baskets live on the shelves in the dining room. But when the holiday season rolls around, Lisa stashes those things in the closets behind the two mirrored doors. Then she restyles her shelves with pretty stemware, platters, and whatever serving pieces and china she hasn't used to set the table. "I also love to show off some of my favorite small paintings by local artists," she says.

## chandelier

"I've wanted a great fixture for years but couldn't find the right one," says Lisa. She scored this piece just in time for Thanksgiving and plans to keep it around way past the holidays. It started life as a brass chandelier, but Lisa painted it Old White by Annie Sloan Chalk Paint and used clear and dark brush-on wax to give it an antique look.

## tablecloth

"A great tablecloth changes the whole look of the room," says Lisa, who designs her own line of custom bedding and table linens ([ldlinensanddecor.com](http://ldlinensanddecor.com)). "A short cloth makes the table look special, but it's not too formal—the perfect feel for Thanksgiving." Lisa designed this blue-banded linen cloth to conform to the curved edges of her table. It drops to just the tops of the chair seats, so guests can scoot up without getting tangled.

## patterned rug

A rug doesn't have to stay in the same room all the time. If you have a casual, everyday one like Lisa's chunky jute, swap it with something more decorative from another part of the house, like this more formal wool carpet.

AFTER



## mission makeover



Lisa dresses up her everyday table with a custom-fit linen cloth.

### hurricane candle

To set a cozy holiday mood, place a layer of kumquats in a small glass hurricane vase, then put a pillar candle on top and surround it with Hypericum berries. The wax will collect on top of the fruit as the candle burns down, so you won't have to scrape it off the bottom of the glass.



### centerpiece

It took three dozen Free Spirit roses and one bunch of leucadendron pods to fill this 7-inch-tall, 8-inch-wide copper vase. Trim stems so they're a few inches taller than the vase, then fill the container halfway with water and the snipped-off bits of stem. Insert the flowers one by one into the stem pieces, which act as a net to hold them steady.



### place setting

A table can look stuffy when everything matches just so. Lisa's place settings are a mix of her formal china and her everyday dinnerware, plus the simplest place cards ever: Gala apples tied with organza ribbon and gift tags. It all sits on top of a \$3 braided place mat (World Market stores).



# COOL TOOLS *for* BRIGHT LIGHTS!



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# presto chango!

Talk about a reinvention: \$75 for a secondhand console table, plus \$265 for supplies, and you have yourself a colorful kitchen island.

**i**t took less than 30 minutes of perusing craigslist.com to come across a well-made console table that was looking for a new home. With its long, slim top and lower shelf, the table could quickly be turned into a kitchen workstation—one that wouldn't take up much space. This makeover didn't require major construction skills, just some savvy shopping for a new surface for the top, hardware, casters, and paint.



## WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- ✓ Cutting board top, cut the same size as your table's top
- ✓ Screwdriver
- ✓ Wood filler
- ✓ Putty knife
- ✓ Medium-grit sandpaper
- ✓ Paintbrush
- ✓ Primer
- ✓ Semigloss latex paint
- ✓ 4 locking casters, with wheels large enough to raise the table to about 36 inches
- ✓ Magnetic-front wall pocket
- ✓ 2 small hooks
- ✓ Drill
- ✓ Drawer pull that's long enough to hold a dish towel
- ✓ Adhesive cork shelf liner
- ✓ Cafe curtain rod, cut to fit between the table legs on one end (ask the store to cut it for you)
- ✓ S-hooks
- ✓ Nonskid grip shelf liner





## THE EASY HOW-TOS

**1** To make your table a functional food prep space, it will need a new top. We had ½-inch-thick polyethylene (a common material for cutting boards) cut to the dimensions of the console's top (\$66 for a 48-inch-by-16-inch piece, [cuttingboardcompany.com](http://cuttingboardcompany.com)). You can also try butcher block, granite, or marble, but they do cost more.

**4** On one end of the table, screw the wall pocket (\$20, [containerstore.com](http://containerstore.com)) into the apron of the table. The pocket is great for holding cookbooks, magazines, or a cookbook stand (below). Then screw in the small hooks on either side of the drawer to hang pot holders.

**2** Once you have the top, start working on the table. Unscrew any old hardware, if necessary, and use the putty knife to fill the holes with wood filler. Let the filler dry, then sand the entire table to remove any old paint or varnish and to even out any nicks in the wood.

**5** Drill holes for the new drawer pull into the front of the drawer, then screw it in. Cut the cork shelf liner to fit, then line the interior of the drawer. This will help cushion knives, peelers, and other utensils you stash in there.

**3** Prime the entire table and let dry, then paint it with a semigloss latex, which can be wiped down in case of food splatters (we used Edamame by HGTV HOME by Sherwin-Williams). Let dry, then attach a caster to the bottom of each table leg. Lock them so the table won't move while you finish the project.

**6** Mount the curtain rod, using the hardware it comes with, between the legs at the table's end opposite the wall pocket (below). Hang the S-hooks from the rod for utensils. Cut the grip shelf liner slightly smaller than the tabletop. Lay it on the table, then set the cutting board on top of the liner, which keeps it in place.



left side



inside the drawer



right side

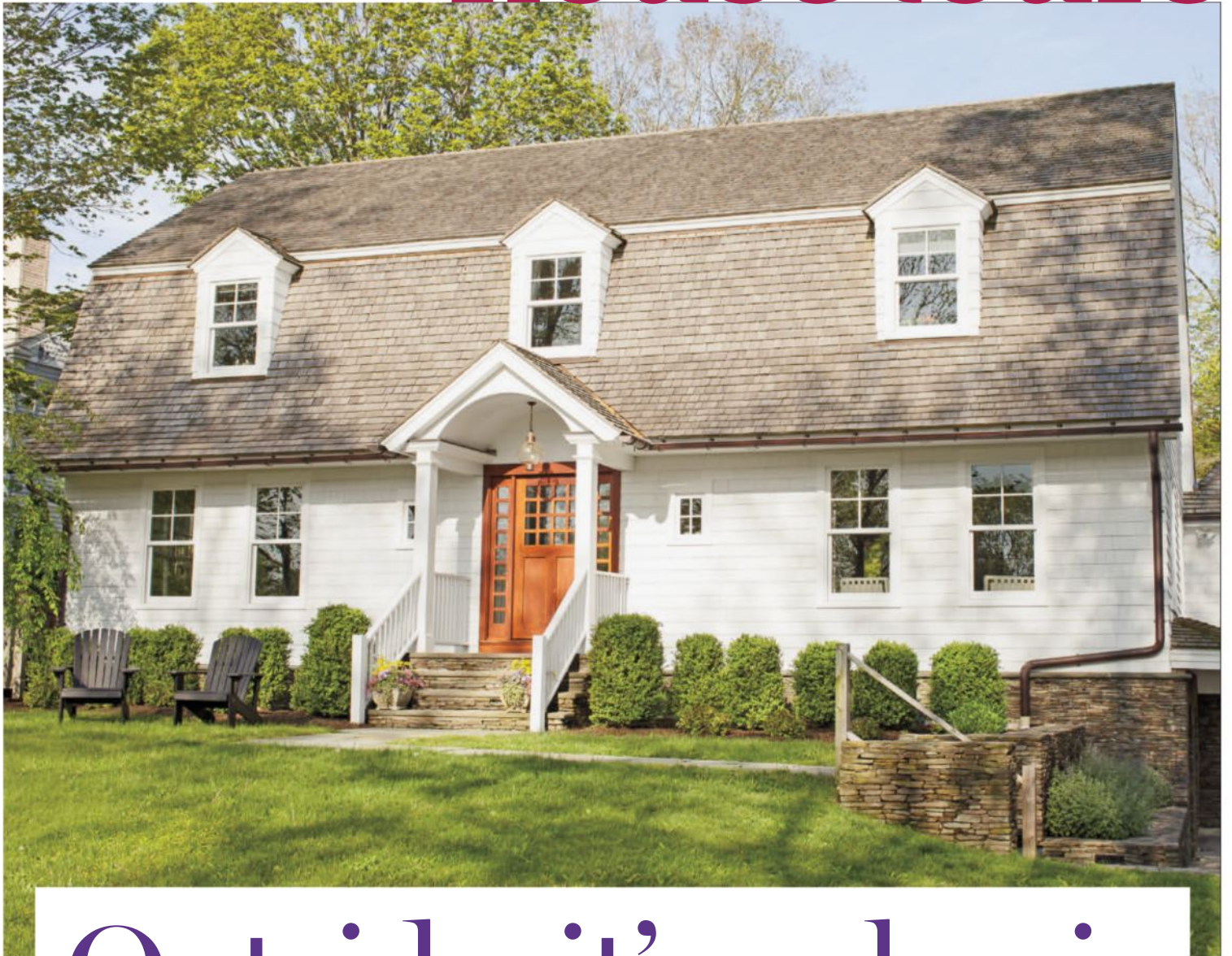


Where Good Times Reside.™

Find inspiring recipes at [TownHouseCrackers.com](http://TownHouseCrackers.com)



# house tours



Outside, it's a classic  
white charmer.  
But inside, well...  
just turn the page! ➔



# ...it's jam-packed with personality!

## Drive down the Darien, CT, street where Karen Bow lives with her husband,

Tom, and their 16-year-old daughter, Melanie, and you probably wouldn't think twice about the lovely Dutch barn colonial. But once you step inside...whoa! Fuchsia! Orange! Flowers! Everywhere! "When people first come into our house, it's like 'bam!' I just love that feeling of surprise," says Karen.

The Bow's home wasn't always so bold. In fact, the family lived there for 12 years before taking the color plunge. "Things were literally falling apart. I told my husband we either had to move or renovate," says Karen, an interior designer who worked for Jonathan Adler during the reno. "I wanted my home to make me smile," Karen says. She decided to buy only things she really loved, and used bright fabrics as a starting point. Luckily the whole family was on board with her gutsy vision.

Karen's daring decorating style is catching. Even friends with mostly monochromatic homes get inspired to perk up their own place after visiting. "Color makes everybody happy," says Karen. "I think people get infected by it."







## Snazzy family room

Karen upholstered the sofas with a fuchsia wool-blend fabric, then ran with a hot pink theme throughout the house. "I'm not even close to being over this color," she says. In the family room, Karen balanced the bright shade with brown—in the rug; the pillows; and the curtains, which, if you look closely, are actually made of a large-scale bird-and-floral print. The other big pieces—the coffee table and vintage credenza—are pretty low-key, as are the walls, which she painted the same shade of white as the exterior of the house.



## Dramatic

The ceiling molding pattern was inspired by Karen's past work in theater and set design. "Only later did I realize why it was so familiar," she says. "The design is in almost every theater I've ever been in!" She chose the wood and leather low-back chairs to add some masculinity to the room.



## Jazzy bar

Karen keeps the super-glossy lacquer bar stocked with glasses and drink fixings so she's always ready for pop-in guests.





## Playful powder room

The shimmery floor-to-ceiling mosaic glass tiles tend to mesmerize kids, especially little girls. "It's not unusual for them to disappear in there for a while. Kids just seem to really get the joy in this room," says Karen.



## Zippy mud room

Karen put her own stamp on the wallpaper in this mud/laundry/back door area, creating the pattern with her friend Given Campbell, a wallpaper designer. They hand-stamped the flowers, but Karen didn't like how they turned out, so she changed course and cut out more than 200 daisies, which she appliquéd to the paper instead. She had the baskets sprayed orange at an auto paint shop.





## Poppy kitchen

Neutrals dominate in the kitchen with white Caesarstone countertops, earthy cabinets, and a stainless steel tile backsplash. But you didn't think she'd forget her fuchsia, did you? Glass pendants and a Tootsie Pop print by Todd Lim help tie the kitchen to the open family room.

## Spunky bedroom

Daughter Melanie helped design her own bedroom. The headboard is medium-density fiberboard (MDF) wainscoting painted orange, and the giraffe sconces were mounted directly on it for easy reading in bed. The silhouette of Lola, the family's Pekingese, is by artist Carter Kustera, who also did a silhouette of Melanie (opposite page).







## Sparkly guest room

An extra bedroom has orange and gold Mylar wallpaper, which Karen's guests get a real kick out of. A silhouette of Melanie by Carter Kustera hangs in the hallway. Kustera always includes a handwritten line about his subject; Melanie's says, "laughs at her own jokes."



## Funky music corner

Melanie (who has played the guitar since she was 6) picked out the chartreuse egg chair when she was 12, and she still loves it. "I'm definitely taking it with me when I get my own place one day," she says.

The dotted rug, a customized Jonathan Adler design, has hues that jibe with Melanie's color scheme. While it did take longer than buying the in-stock version, customizing the colors personalizes the room even more.







## Surprise! A pretty ↑ subdued eating area

A vintage settee and traditional chairs sit around the table, a walnut and glass midcentury number. Karen covered one wall with the same print that's on the family-room curtains. "I like that the colors are quieter in this nook," she says. "It's the perfect spot to drink coffee and read the paper."

Karen's  
husband,  
Tom, and their  
daughter,  
Melanie, at the  
breakfast table



# now, get the look!



## floral curtains

Aviary in Earth  
by Thomas Paul,  
\$37 per yard,  
calicocorners.com

**pink pendant**  
Pahu 8-cable pendant  
in amethyst, \$405,  
ylighting.com



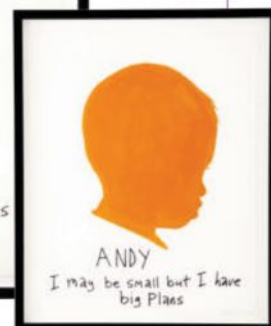
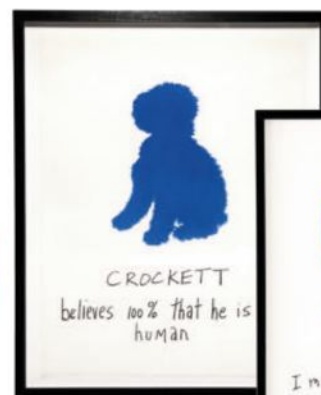
## spotted rug

Polka-dot 5' x 8' rug, \$360,  
safaviehhome.com



## magenta seating

Handy Living Nate slipper  
chair in magenta, \$200,  
wayfair.com



## bold silhouettes

Carter Kustera Pop 9" x 7" portraits,  
from \$110, carterkustera.com



## fun lighting

Jonathan Adler  
Giraffe scone,  
\$185, lampsplus  
.com

**pillow that pops**  
Rizzy Home throw pillow,  
\$38, bedding.com



## graphic bench

X bench, 20¼"W  
x 20½"D x 21"H,  
upholstered in  
Camargo Lattice,  
\$275, ballard  
designs.com





# WELCOME TO

It's totally normal for Kelly McKenna to come home and take a head count. The single mom's remodeled house has become a favorite hangout spot for her kids and their friends—and that's the ultimate compliment.



The quaint Cape looks small but can host a bunch!

## EAT-IN KITCHEN

"My old kitchen was so small, it was hard to have more than one person in it," says Kelly. Not anymore! "Sometimes when I get home from work, there are 12 kids in here. It's nonstop." The big farmhouse table can easily seat a crowd, and comfy armchairs mean guests actually want to linger around the table when they're done eating.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY **DAVID A. LAND**  
WRITTEN BY **ELIZABETH ROEHRIG**  
STYLING BY **FRANCES BAILEY** AND  
**KARIN LIDBECK-BRENT**





# THE FUN HOUSE



Kelly's kids, Bella, far right, Thomas, standing, and their friends use the table constantly. It didn't get nearly as much action when it lived in the dining room.





## SITTING ROOM

Slipcovered pieces make this area off the kitchen kid- and pet-friendly. The sofa is dog Riley's favorite spot. The yellow table was a rescue. Kelly happened to spy it in her friend's driveway, where it was en route to the dump, and instead hauled it home.

**O**n most days Kelly McKenna has a houseful of teenagers—and only two of them are hers. “I wanted the kind of house where my kids’ friends would always come over,” she says. Boy, did she get her wish!

When Kelly and her then husband bought the Duxbury, MA, house in 1991, they had dreams of a head-to-toe reno. But it wasn’t until 2010 that Kelly, a financial executive, had saved up enough money and decided to do the overhaul. She’d been divorced for almost a decade and was ready for a change. “My kids, Bella and Thomas, were having more and more friends over, and they would all cram into the little TV room,” she says. “I wanted to make the house comfortable for a crowd.” Collaborating with

her contractor, Bill Wennerberg, Kelly knocked out interior walls in the 18th-century cottage to open up the main floor, creating an expansive kitchen perfect for pizza parties, with plenty of room in the pantry for snacks. She added lots of welcoming spaces (wait till you see what she did with the dining room!) and chose materials that are easy to maintain, like concrete pavers for the floors and slipcovered furniture. Now there’s a place for everything—and everyone.

“Kids love coming over. Another mom told me it’s because I’m the ‘favorite mom,’ but I think it’s because the house is so inviting and easy to be in.” Clearly the feeling is mutual. “I love having everyone around,” says Kelly. “They’re so full of life.”





### PICTURE NOOK

The staircase landing became a gallery for the family's photos, a mix of new and old portraits that go back as far as Kelly's great-grandfather.



“When the kids’ friends first saw the room, I think they were in shock. There was a lot of ‘I can’t believe there’s a Ping-Pong table in your dining room!’ and ‘This is so cool!’ They can’t get enough of it.”

—Kelly McKenna



### MUD/LAUNDRY ROOM

The remodel borrowed space from the garage to create this organized back entry. Since she’s a total clutter hater, Kelly loves that there’s a dedicated space for everyone’s stuff here: built-in cubbies for Thomas and Bella’s backpacks, coats, and shoes; another for Riley’s leashes and dog biscuits. They drop beach towels and gym clothes in the rolling laundry bins on their way into the house.

### DINING ROOM

It seemed a waste that the dining room was used only on major holidays, so Kelly found a fun new purpose for the space: Ping-Pong! The table measures 5 feet by 9 feet. Kelly had a builder craft three wooden leaves to sit on top of it, expanding the table to seat 18 for Thanksgiving and Christmas gatherings.





## PANTRY

Kelly had always envisioned using a sliding barn door in her house, and the pantry seemed like the perfect place. She had this door built from reclaimed pine that her contractor found at a nearby sawmill. Inside she stores an unlimited supply of snacks in glass jars and baskets so everybody can help themselves.





## BUNK ROOM

Sleeping bags won't do when you have as many overnight guests as this family. Kelly had wanted a bunk room in addition to her traditional guest room ever since she saw a picture of one in a magazine years ago. The built-in twin bunks really max out the small space.





“With the fire pit, we can spend time outdoors almost year-round. We even used it last New Year’s Eve.”

—Kelly McKenna



## BACKYARD

Everyone loves sitting around the fire talking late into the night. “I like to unwind out here with friends over a glass of wine,” says Kelly. The pit’s ledge is wide enough for people to sit on, so there’s plenty of room for a big group. The actual construction was simple: A fireproof brick box was covered with fieldstone and topped off with a bluestone ledge.



## WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING SHOULD YOU SAY YES TO?

YES NO

☐☐

Blogging your true feelings about co-workers.

☐☐

Wearing leather pants.

☐☐

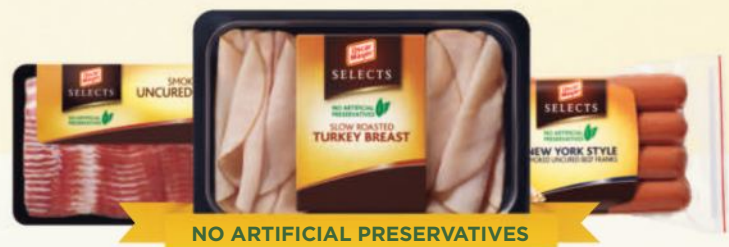
Setting all your passwords to "1234."

☐☐

Slow roasted turkey breast with no artificial preservatives.



New Oscar Mayer Selects. **It's Yes Food.**





# kitchen chronicles



go on!

use a favorite color

Meet a California homeowner whose love of green led the way to a whole new kitchen.



## kitchen chronicles

**i**t's not unusual to show off a favorite hue in the living room, but for some reason, kitchens rarely get that special treatment. Deepthi Brown, however, wasn't about to do a neutral or white cook space in her light-filled Los Angeles home. For her it was bright green or bust! With designers Heidi Bonesteel and Michele Trout, Deepthi outfitted the room in her color of choice, and she couldn't be more pleased with the result. The Browns start and finish most days in their happy-hued kitchen, and whenever guests come by, they gravitate there too. "It's turned out to be the most important room in our house," Deepthi says. "It's peaceful and welcoming all at once."



The pantry lives behind these doors.

### "Everyone knows what's in my fridge"

The glass-front fridge by Sub-Zero makes it easy to monitor the contents. "I can always see what's in the fridge, even from across the room," Deepthi says. Word to the wise: Extra cleaning is required to banish smudges. "I do have to wipe the outside with glass cleaner every couple of days," she says.







**"These pendants were a pleasant surprise"**

Made of weathered zinc, the generously sized pendant lamps (32 inches by 20 inches) over the island add a rustic touch to the new room. "I love turning these on while everything else is off at night," says Deepthi. "They have the best soft, warm glow, almost like candlelight."

**"I have one rule for countertops"**

There's no getting around it: The Calcutta Gold marble counters and black walnut wood island top require extra diligence to prevent marks and stains—and that means a single kitchen credo: No drink goes down without a coaster. "It's a simple precaution I'm willing to take to keep the counters looking beautiful," she says.

**"OK, all green would have been too much"**

As a concession to her husband, Patrick, whose style is more traditional and less colorful than Deepthi's, Michele and Heidi calmed down the kicky palette with two tones of natural wood: light oak cabinets, and a dark walnut countertop on the island. The floor tiles, in terra-cotta, were another compromise.



## kitchen chronicles

*"Glass-front cabinets mean I put a lot of pretty pieces on display"*

Not only are the doors clear glass, but the shelves are, too (they're held in place with shallow wood ledges). All that glass gives the oak cabinets an airy feel, almost like the contents are floating. Deepthi arranges her dishes in tidy stacks and rows.

*"My backsplash isn't at all bashful"*

For the tile, Deepthi considered dozens of styles and shades of green but landed on Vibe-Ashbury in key lime by Walker Zanger. She describes the color as "paddy field green," a fresh, grassy hue that reminds her of the rice fields in her native India. "We love the curved shape of the tiles because they match the Mediterranean style of the house," she says.

*"The range is the star of the show"*

Heidi and Michele helped the Browns reconfigure the kitchen's floor plan to be more roomy. They started with the back wall, which now houses the 60-inch range by Wolf and the eye-catching zinc hood. The double ovens and eight gas burners are great for preparing multiple dishes at once. "The stove used to be in the island, which didn't make sense because it caused traffic jams, and I thought cooking smells lingered forever," says Deepthi. Now the range has plenty of space surrounding it, plus an odor-eliminating hood.



## now, get the look!



**PENDANTS** Uttermost Albano 1-light pendant, \$216, [lampsplus.com](http://lampsplus.com)

**ISLAND PAINT** Cooking Apple Green by Farrow & Ball



**FAUCET IN ISLAND** Talo single handle pull-down bar/prep faucet, \$920, [brizo.com](http://brizo.com) for stores

**BACKSPLASH TILE** Vibe-Ashbury Mosaic in key lime, \$21 per square foot, [walkerzanger.com](http://walkerzanger.com) for stores





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# pantry raid

Take a peek at the soups, snacks, spices, and other staples these cooking pros keep on their shelves.



Comfort food is the focus for this Memphis-based couple. At home with daughters Spenser, 23, and Shelbi, 17, they keep their kitchen full of fixin's for signature dishes like chili and mac and cheese.

## UNCLE BEN'S ORIGINAL LONG GRAIN WHITE RICE

**PAT:** "Chili's not chili if you don't have rice. This is our go-to choice for long grain white rice. I top the whole dish off with cheddar, sour cream, and chives."

## KETTLE BRAND POTATO CHIPS

**GINA:** "Crush up potato chips and mix with grated Parmesan and crumbled, cooked bacon to top mac and cheese before baking. It makes a delicious crust."

## SWANSON NATURAL GOODNESS CHICKEN BROTH

**PAT:** "If a recipe like shrimp and grits calls for water, I'll use chicken broth instead. You can't compare the flavor."

## WHEATIES

**GINA:** "Pat and I both eat Wheaties with fresh fruit most mornings. We like anything that can help with cholesterol."

## PANKO BREAD CRUMBS

**PAT:** "Dip boneless, skinless chicken breasts in egg, coat them with panko, then bake. People think they're fried because they turn out so crispy."



## DARK RED KIDNEY BEANS

**PAT:** "I prefer dark kidney beans. I'll put four cans in a pot of chili. I want beans all over the place!"

## MORTON COARSE KOSHER SALT

**GINA:** "Kosher salt is coarser than table salt, so you tend to use less of it. We both watch our sodium intake."

## WHOLE BLACK PEPPERCORNS

**PAT:** "I like to control the size of pepper I want for pasta or potatoes, so I use a pepper grinder and grind it myself."

## CAMPBELL'S CHICKEN VEGETABLE SOUP

**PAT:** "Shelbi, who's a high school senior, loves to have soup as a snack to tide her over until dinner."

## OREO COOKIES

**GINA:** "We snack on these after dinner or even use them in some dessert recipes. Always the classic kind."

## NEW POTATOES

**PAT:** "I'm a potato man. These make a quick side dish: Cube them, boil them, then add fresh cooked green beans and smoked ham hocks."



# DEB PERELMAN

Blogger and author of  
*The Smitten Kitchen Cookbook*



This New York City-based blogger cooks and bakes from scratch using lots of healthy ingredients. Here's what's always on hand at the home she shares with her husband, Alex, and their son, Jacob, 3.

## DRIED CHERRIES

"Cherries are a really nice, tart addition to granola as a change from cranberries."

## QUAKER OATS

"My son loves oatmeal, so I make a pot for him every day. Once in a while I'll try to give him something else for breakfast and he'll say, 'No! Oatmeal.'"

## LYLE'S GOLDEN SYRUP

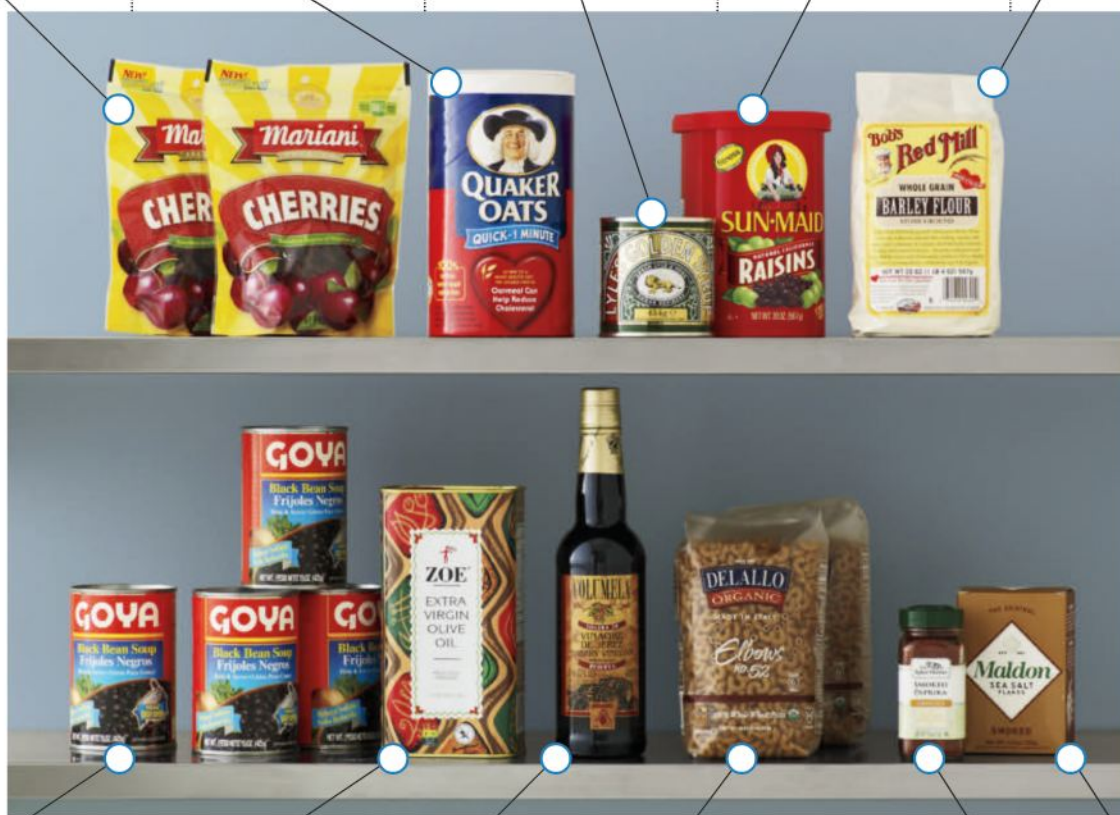
"This syrup has a faint caramel flavor. I use it on pancakes instead of maple syrup, or in a pecan pie recipe in place of corn syrup." \$4.50, [englishteastore.com](http://englishteastore.com).

## SUN-MAID RAISINS

"In the winter, instead of fresh fruit, I'll add raisins to my son's oatmeal with cinnamon, milk, and brown sugar."

## BARLEY FLOUR

"This is high in protein but not heavy like some whole grain flours. I'll use it in recipes as a substitute for a portion of all-purpose flour—for example, 25% of the flour in berry muffins."



## GOYA BLACK BEAN SOUP

"One of my pantry tricks! When I don't have time to simmer a pot of beans for a Tex-Mex dish, I'll use this soup instead."

## EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL

"I keep two olive oils around. A lower-priced oil in a can is my everyday one for, say, frying an egg." \$11, [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

## COLUMELA SHERRY VINEGAR

"Drizzle this over roasted vegetables. It has a deeper flavor than white wine vinegar." \$10, Whole Foods Market stores.

## DELALLO WHOLE WHEAT ELBOWS

"This is the best whole wheat kind for mac and cheese. I don't feel like I'm eating it just because I'm supposed to!"

## SMOKED PAPRIKA

"I buy spices the way other women buy lip gloss—my small, not-too-pricey treat. Smoked paprika is a favorite to add to eggs or chicken."

## MALDON SMOKED SEA SALT

"I just discovered this, and I love it to garnish a margarita. It would be amazing with grilled fish, too." \$8, [surlatable.com](http://surlatable.com).





*Is it spaghetti  
disguised as pizza,  
or pizza as spaghetti?*

**Chef only knows.**

### **PEPPERONI SPAGHETTI BAKE**

Hands On: 15 minutes

Total: 30 minutes

Makes: 6 servings

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

- PAM® Original No-Stick Cooking Spray
- 1 1/4 cups original baking mix
- 1/2 cup reduced-fat (2%) milk
- 2 cans (14.5 oz each) Chef Boyardee® Spaghetti and Meatballs
- 3/4 cup shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese, divided
- 1/3 cup sliced turkey pepperoni
- 1 cup shredded Italian blend cheese

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

1. Preheat oven to 375° F. Spray 13x9-inch glass baking dish with cooking spray. Combine baking mix and milk in medium bowl; stir until soft dough forms.
2. Drop dough by spoonfuls on bottom of baking dish (will not completely cover bottom). Spoon 1 can spaghetti and meatballs over dough and sprinkle with 1/2 cup cheese. Top with remaining can spaghetti and meatballs, remaining cheese and pepperoni.
3. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until dough is done in centers and browned.



**Real great Chef. Real great food.**

For more Chef inspired recipes and Chef Hector Boiardi's story, visit [chefboyardee.com](http://chefboyardee.com).

# DEBI MAZAR & GABRIELE CORCOS

Cohosts of Cooking Channel's *Extra Virgin*



On their show, this couple cooks rustic Tuscan American dishes. At home in Brooklyn with daughters Evelina, 10, and Giulia, 6, their pantry has global flavor too.

## CANNELLINI BEANS

**GABRIELE:** "Puree, then heat and strain them to get a smooth texture. Then add to creamy soup in place of milk, butter, or heavy cream."

## MIELI THUN WILD CARROT HONEY

**DEBI:** "It's great on risotto. Or we'll add hot pepper flakes to it and dip in pecorino cheese slices." \$15, [igourmet.com](http://igourmet.com).

## WASA THIN & CRISPY ROSEMARY FLATBREAD

**DEBI:** "They're superthin and delicious, especially spread with goat cheese."

## WISE BBQ POTATO CHIPS

**DEBI:** "Our pantry's healthy, but I do love these barbecue potato chips. And, yes, I share them with the kids!"

## NUTELLA

**DEBI:** "For special occasions, we let the girls put it on bread for breakfast or on top of gelato for dessert."

## CAFÉ BUSTELO ESPRESSO COFFEE

**DEBI:** "I've been using a stove-top pot since way before I met my husband, and this is the coffee I've been drinking forever."



## DE CECCO PASTA

**GABRIELE:** "We like the way this brand cooks up al dente. Perciatelli is like thick spaghetti with a hole through it—it holds up well with meat sauce."

## WHOLE PEELED TOMATOES

**DEBI:** "Whole tomatoes are juicier than the crushed kind, so we use them for stews."

## FINI BALSAMIC VINEGAR

**DEBI:** "It's not too sweet or too concentrated—the perfect balsamic." \$27, [williams-sonoma.com](http://williams-sonoma.com).

## LUCINI ITALIA EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL

**GABRIELE:** "This tastes like Tuscany to me. I use it for salads and marinades, not as a cooking oil."

## RED ONIONS

**DEBI:** "We always have red onions in the house. They're sweeter than yellow ones and great for marinara sauce."

## BONOMELLI CAMOMILE TEA

**DEBI:** "We have this at night, and our kids do too, with honey and lemon. It's a nice family moment." \$4, [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).



# THE NOON GURU

Clear advice with nothing to hide -----

My husband is always on his cell phone. I can't get him off the couch. I constantly call him in for lunch, but he never responds. Any ideas? You just need something that's really going to get his attention. Try picking up some **Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Turkey** from the grocery store. Instead of calling for him, use your phone to snap a picture of the turkey and send it to him. He'll be in the kitchen faster than you can say "I'm hungry."

I've been bringing my lunch to work every day for five years. My husband has been stealing my sandwich and not functioning properly without it. I'm gonna let him know I never been good with compliments!! When I take a deep breath and count to 10, I went to a yoga class once. I recently switched over to **Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Turkey**. When you've got a clear, it's tough to hide deli meat. Vultures can sense a taste in cubicles away. You could also bring in enough for everyone and you'll become instant management material. We're talking window office and everything.

My wife and I never seem to agree on anything these days. I want to watch baseball, but her new favorite show is always on. I wanted to name our kid Jack, but she insisted on Leopold. I like ham sandwiches, but she wants turkey. I can't take it any more. Help! I think you're going to be okay here. I read somewhere that opposites attract! Anyway, here's something I know you'll both enjoy. **Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Classic Combos** in a clear pack. Now you've got turkey, you've got ham, you've got sanity. Make sure you buy enough for little Leopold!

What's your stance on toasted sandwiches? We got a panini press as a wedding

gift, and I'm deciding whether or not I should re-gift it... like the bread maker. Thoughts? Don't even think about it! You've been given a kingly gift my friend. Cherish it. This will quickly become your new best friend. Heat can do some magical things to sandwiches. Prepare for a whole new world of possibility! Just make sure you stock up on a



With anything in the **Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh** clear pack. Finally, I look for the game changer. It's the one personal touch that makes your sandwich truly unique. I'll let you figure that one out for yourself. Remember, all is fair in love and sandwiches.

Wheat or white? Pretzel roll. You're welcome.

What would you say to someone who claims a lunch date or "day date" doesn't really count? I'd say it's all relative. Ask yourself what you're hoping to get out of it. If you're asking me, I'd say a delicious smoked turkey sandwich. A free lunch is always a win

noon, but now it's just another hour. Got any tips for spicing up my lunch routine? Please, I'll do anything! Sounds like a classic case of "Sandwich Block." My guess is that you've been eating a ham and cheese sandwich for lunch every day since middle school. Don't worry, no one is questioning your love for the h&c, but sometimes a little change is what you're seeking variety, but are creating something satisfying for you. It doesn't take a Noon Guru to make a delicious sandwich. I'd recommend **Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Classic Combos**—the ham you love and the turkey

love and sandwiches."

you need to shake things up a bit. Fear not, your secret's safe with me.

Everyone talks about breakfast in bed, but I want to do something unique for my husband of six years. What's your opinion on lunch in bed? I think that's the best idea I've heard all day! What's romantic about waking up at the crack of dawn anyway? I think you should sneak down to the kitchen around noon, and make him the greatest sandwich of his life. Make sure you have plenty of meat and cheese, and all his other favorite fixings. No one knows what he likes better than you. Feel free to throw some sides on the tray too, but make sure the emphasis is on the sandwich. When he wakes up to the sight of that perfect, dream sammy, he'll be thrilled that he gets to spend the rest of his life with you. I think my

**The choice is clear.**



**Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Turkey** comes in a clear pack, so the freshness you see is what you taste.



# look what we

A dozen ways to make your kitchen even more cheerful.

1

## smiley spoon

Think how adorable this will look peeking out of a utensil crock.

Happy spoon, \$7, spoon sisters.com



2

## colorful sink

This enameled cast iron sink won't scratch or stain. Sayonara, stainless!

Iron/Tones double-bowl sink, \$1,295, kohler.com for stores

4

## chip clips

Keep snacks fresh with gator-shaped clips.

Fred & Friends Chompins, \$10 for set of 6, perpetualkid.com



5

## plastic wrap container

This snazzy patterned box has an easy-to-use bladeless cutter. Just add plastic wrap refills.

ChicWrap 12" box, \$10 (comes prefilled), chicwrap.com

3

## candy-striped light

Don't neglect the ceiling. A handblown shade with rainbow rings looks pretty both on and off.

Newbury 4" fixture with shade, \$158, schoolhouseelectric.com



6

## fun sponge

When's the last time you smiled while washing the dishes?

Marna sponge, \$6, shop.walkerart.org



SPOON AND WHISK: PHILIP FRIEDMAN/STUDIO D; CLIPS AND MUG: GREG MARINO/STUDIO D; BOWL: MARKO METZINGER/STUDIO D; OTHER STILLS: COURTESY OF MANUFACTURERS



# found!



store it



use it

## 7

### pop-up bowl

Takes up little room in the cabinet, plus it's dishwasher-safe. Genius.

Squish 5-quart bowl, \$20, [target.com](http://target.com)



## 10

### bright pitcher

It won't get lost in the fridge thanks to that traffic-cone-color top.

Grand pitcher with filter, \$33, [brita.com](http://brita.com)



## 9

### cutest timer

The birdhouse buzzes when food's ready! Bonus: It's a magnet, too.

Birdhouse 2½" x 3½" timer, \$15, [huset-shop.com](http://huset-shop.com)



## 8

### whimsical whisk

An old-school turned handle plus a silicone top is the perfect blend of trad and rad.

The Curiosity Shoppe at Target whisk, \$9, [target.com](http://target.com)



## 11

### neon cutting boards

So good-looking, you can use them as platters on the table.

Color boards, from \$25 each, [corebamboo.com](http://corebamboo.com)



## 12

### gem of a mug

Loop your finger through the handle and it looks like you're sporting a gold and ruby ring.

MoMA 2 Carat cup, \$15 (available October 12), [hsn.com](http://hsn.com)



## what would the kitchen cousins do?

John Colaneri and Anthony Carrino  
have quick answers to all your questions.

**You use colorful cabinets a lot on your show. What are they made of, and why do you prefer them over wood?** —Joey S., via Facebook

**JOHN:** The ones we often use are laminate, which we like because they have a clean, shiny finish and come in so many colors. Make sure you choose a good-quality laminate, though, or they can become worn and chipped over time. We also like lacquer, which has a similar look and is more durable, but it's about 20% pricier.

**ANTHONY:** We don't have anything against wood—especially if it's painted or glazed—but traditional stained cabinets can feel dated, and we usually like a contemporary look for a kitchen.

**What do you think of butcher-block counters—too much maintenance? Germ magnets? I love the look.**

—Stephanie J., via Facebook

**ANTHONY:** I do too! They are stunning with Shaker or farmhouse cabinets. The maintenance isn't much: Just rub them with mineral oil or bee's oil every few months so they don't look dull.

**JOHN:** Oiling keeps them germ-free, too. If you skip it, the wood will absorb water, and bacteria will grow. Oh, and don't cut directly on them—use a cutting board so you don't leave knife marks or food particles behind.

**My backsplash tiles have pictures of artichokes, peppers, apples, and grapes. Anything I can do to change the look without ripping out the entire backsplash?**

—Kirstin E., via Facebook

**ANTHONY:** The most cost-effective route is to paint the tiles with enamel paint. Or you can spend a few hundred dollars for a painter or bathtub refinisher to spray the tiles with a glaze just like you'd do to a tub. Glazes come in lots of colors.

**JOHN:** Personally, I'd rip it out—a backsplash isn't a huge expense. You can get great glass or stone tiles from your local hardware store for as little as \$7.50 per square foot.

**My kitchen is small, and most appliances I see are huge. Do you have any recommendations for small-scale versions?**

—Eliza Daly, New York City

**JOHN:** All the big companies, like Whirlpool and GE, make small-scale models, and

many are just as efficient as the large ones. Start with the fridge: For a family of four, you probably don't need one wider than 30 inches; depending on your cooking habits, you may be able to get away with 24 inches. If you choose one that's the same depth as your counters, you'll get a custom built-in look.

**ANTHONY:** Some 24-inch ranges come with powerful commercial-grade burners, the same as on larger models. You can also find good 18-inch dishwashers that run quietly. And all the major manufacturers offer lots of small microwaves, so you can have your pick there!

**I'm remodeling my kitchen. I have \$12,000 to spend. Which areas should I invest in to get the most bang for my buck? P.S.: I love to cook!**

—Kristi Neff, Wheaton, IL

**JOHN:** I would skip new cabinets—even standard ones cost at least \$2,500 before installation fees—and update just the hardware (about \$500). Then spend your money on new stainless steel appliances (\$6,000 or so) and a backsplash (around \$1,500). Both score major impact. Same with countertops. One of our favorite materials is quartz (about \$70 per square foot) because it's nonporous and ecofriendly, and it looks luxurious.

**ANTHONY:** And don't forget the lighting. If you have a peninsula or an island, I'd add at least one pendant—it really helps transform the space. Schoolhouse Electric ([schoolhouseelectric.com](http://schoolhouseelectric.com)) has beautiful vintage-looking fixtures that start around \$250.



# yes, we can be bought

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[lowes.com](http://lowes.com)

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[mrsmeyers.com](http://mrsmeyers.com)

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[pier1.com](http://pier1.com)

## Ultra-Lit Technologies, Inc.

Ultra-Lit has the ULTIMATE Christmas light set repair tools at affordable prices. Their Cool Yule Tools are great for pre-lit trees and pay for themselves.



And the New



[ulitalit.com](http://ulitalit.com)

## Tweet Sweeps

Let's get social! *HGTV Magazine* has joined the conversation with our very own Twitter profile. To celebrate, we're giving away a chevron tote and two decorative pillows from our Oct/Nov issue. Follow us @HGTVMagPromo and tweet us your favorite autumn activity before Nov 12 to win!



NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. HGTV MAGAZINE FALL FOR AUTUMN TWITTER SWEEPSTAKES. Sponsored by Hearst Communications, Inc. Beginning September 10, 2012 at 12:01am (ET) and ending November 12, 2012 at 11:59pm (ET). Enter online at [TWITTER.COM/HGTVMAGPROMO](http://TWITTER.COM/HGTVMAGPROMO). Entrants must be a member of Twitter. One winner will receive a chevron patterned tote bag (RV:\$50) and two Echo Design Decorative Pillows. (RV: \$100) (ARV:\$150) Odds of winning will depend on the number of eligible entries received. Open to legal residents of the 50 United States and the District of Columbia who are 18 and over. Void in PUERTO RICO and where prohibited by law. Sweepstakes is subject to complete official rules available at [HGTVMAGONLINE.COM](http://HGTVMAGONLINE.COM).

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# in the yard

## plant a tree! now's the time

It provides shade and beautiful leaves—but planting a tree in your yard also forms a long-lasting bond between you and your home.



**a**ny tree can be planted in the fall as long as the ground isn't frozen—but try to plant as early in the season as possible, when the soil is still warm and moist. This gives your new tree a jump on growing strong roots before winter. Here's how to get it in the ground.

- 1 MOST TREES GROW FASTER** in full sunlight, so select a spot that gets at least six hours of direct sun per day. Leave a lot of open space around the tree to accommodate it as it grows.
- 2 GRAB THE TRUNK** near the top of the root ball and pull the tree out of its container. Gently lay it on the ground. Wearing gloves, use a long-handled shovel with a pointy tip to dig under the grass. Make a hole that's three times the diameter of the root ball and about as deep as the container.
- 3 PLACE THE TREE** in the center of the hole, then tease the roots loose. Make sure the tree is standing straight.
- 4 FILL THE HOLE WITH SOIL** and cover about half the root ball. Pat down, then water well for a few minutes. Once the water is absorbed, fill the hole with more soil, tamping it down as you go.
- 5 PILE THREE INCHES OF MULCH** around the tree's base, but don't let it touch the trunk. Water the tree for about five minutes twice a week for the first few years after planting. Then water only during droughts.

Turn the page for  
smart tree picks

SMALL shorter than 40 feet



dogwood

**REACHES MATURITY IN:** 15 years  
**BEST PLACES TO PLANT:** There are good dogwood varieties for nearly every region of the country except the extreme Southwest, the coldest parts of the upper Midwest and Northeast, and the tropical Southeast.  
**GOOD TO KNOW:** This tree marks the start of the spring growing season with large pink and white blooms. Although it grows quickly, it will hit only about 25 feet tall and wide at maturity. It thrives in partial shade and moist, organic, acidic soil. The dark green leaves turn reddish purple in the fall.



jacaranda

**REACHES MATURITY IN:** 15 to 20 years  
**BEST PLACES TO PLANT:** The Southwest and deep Southeast, plus warm parts of the Pacific Northwest. It won't tolerate prolonged freezing temperatures.  
**GOOD TO KNOW:** This tree shows off sweetly scented, trumpetlike purple flowers in the summer. It will grow to at least 25 feet tall and wide, and is relatively pest-free. If you live in a cooler climate, expect a lot of raking come fall, when its small leaves blanket the ground. Plant in well-drained soil and full sun.



mimosa

**REACHES MATURITY IN:** 15 years  
**BEST PLACES TO PLANT:** Temperate areas of the Northwest and Southwest, and the Mid-Atlantic states.  
**GOOD TO KNOW:** This variety grows to about 30 feet tall. Its branches reach out horizontally, giving it a flat top. Kids will like how its leaves fold up at night or when brushed with your hand. Puffy pink flowers cover it in late summer. It's not picky about soil but likes full sun. But take note: Some states consider this tree invasive.

LARGE taller than 40 feet



ash

**REACHES MATURITY IN:** 25 years  
**BEST PLACES TO PLANT:** Varieties of ash can live in nearly every part of the country.  
**GOOD TO KNOW:** Ash trees typically reach about 50 feet tall, and most boast shiny dark green leaves that turn bright yellow or purple-red in the fall. In the summer, the flowers transform into long seedpods known as samaras. Although the tree prefers moist, well-drained soil, certain varieties can easily hold up to drought and poor drainage. If you live in a dry climate, try the velvet ash, which is native to the Southwest.



linden

**REACHES MATURITY IN:** 40 years  
**BEST PLACES TO PLANT:** It's versatile! The linden will grow throughout the Midwest, as well as in the coldest parts of the country and very temperate areas.  
**GOOD TO KNOW:** Also called basswood, this tree creates deep, dark shade. It can grow to 80 feet tall and has branches that sweep down around the trunk like a skirt. In spring, pale green flowers hang among its big, heart-shaped leaves, giving off a spicy, sweet scent. Plant in full sun or light shade in any type of soil.



tulip tree

**REACHES MATURITY IN:** 45 years  
**BEST PLACES TO PLANT:** Cooler regions of the Southwest, and throughout the lower Midwest, West Coast, Northeast, and Southeast.  
**GOOD TO KNOW:** It can grow to a giant 90 feet tall and 50 feet wide. In late spring, it sports blooms that look like yellow-green tulips—hence its name. Foliage turns dark by summer and bright yellow in late fall. It likes moist, rich, acidic soil and does best in full sun, though partial shade is OK too.





## eastern redbud

**REACHES MATURITY IN:** 15 to 20 years

**BEST PLACES TO PLANT:** You can find species and cultivars of this tree throughout most of the country.

**GOOD TO KNOW:** The perfect small-yard pick, this tree grows to about 30 feet, thrives in full sun or light shade, and tolerates all kinds of soil conditions, though it prefers a moist, well-drained location. In early spring, it grows bright purplish pink flowers on bare stems before developing heart-shaped matte green leaves that turn yellow in the fall.



## chinese fringe tree

**REACHES MATURITY IN:** 10 to 15 years

**BEST PLACES TO PLANT:** Most of the country, especially colder parts of the Midwest, Southeast, and Northeast.

**GOOD TO KNOW:** In early summer, this yard tree is covered in clusters of white ruffled flowers. Growing to just about 20 feet, it carries its branches in a giant ball shape on a trunk with peeling bark that reveals gray, brown, and green patches. In the fall, its leaves turn yellow. Plant in rich, moist soil in a spot that's somewhat shaded from strong afternoon sun.



## overcup oak

**REACHES MATURITY IN:** 40 years

**BEST PLACES TO PLANT:** Nearly every part of the country except the coldest parts of the upper Midwest and the northernmost parts of the Northeast.

**GOOD TO KNOW:** Also known as swamp white oak, this species reaches up to 80 feet tall and provides plenty of shade. It needs full sun and can tolerate nearly every soil condition. Blue-green leaves hang on until early winter—in the Deep South, even longer. Its acorns are distinctive, with brown and black stripes.



## sugar maple

**REACHES MATURITY IN:** 40 years

**BEST PLACES TO PLANT:** The Northwest, the upper Southeast, cooler regions of the Southwest, and across the Midwest.

**GOOD TO KNOW:** The main reason to grow a maple? Its fall display—when its broad, star-shaped foliage transforms from pea green to shades of scarlet, orange, and yellow. Both the 'Green Mountain' and 'Legacy' varieties are especially eye-catching, with multihued leaves hanging off 80-foot-tall trunks. Plant in full sun or partial shade in rich, moist soil for the most vibrant leaves.



## no room to plant a tree in your own yard?

Green up your community by volunteering with the Arbor Day Foundation ([arbordaynow.org](http://arbordaynow.org)) or with a tree-planting program in your area. Many major cities have them, including New York City's New York Restoration Project and Los Angeles' Million Trees LA.





# the everything guide to **mums**

These classic fall flowers are (almost) goof-proof! Here's all you need to know to make them thrive.



## how to shop for them

You can find top-quality mums everywhere from your corner market to the nursery. To make sure you get the cream of the crop, follow these pointers:

- Pick plants with tightly packed, bright green, evenly colored foliage—all good signs that the mums are healthy.
- Mums should have stiff, rigid stems. Soft stems could indicate disease; broken ones may signify that the plant has been overhandled.
- Buds that are completely closed or just opening mean you will enjoy the blooms longer at home.
- When buds are closed without showing any color, all mums can look alike. So check the tag to ensure you're getting the color and variety you want.

## where to find unusual ones

There are more than 5,000 named varieties of mums, but you may see only the most common kinds at big garden centers.

For more unique blooms, check out these two online nurseries:

**Bluestone Perennials** [bluestoneperennials.com](http://bluestoneperennials.com)

**Spring Hill Nurseries** [springhillnursery.com](http://springhillnursery.com)

## good-to-know care tips

- Plant mums in full sun—ideally in a spot that gets at least six hours a day.
- Mums do best in fertile, well-drained soil. Give yours a boost with compost, if needed.
- Never let newly planted mums wilt. Water them often to keep them healthy.
- If you live in a warm climate and want mums to survive through the winter, fertilize them with an organic liquid fertilizer or Miracle-Gro every four to six weeks. Or try GreenView Mum Food, a new fertilizer just for mums (\$8 for 4 pounds, at garden stores).
- Watch out for pests like leaf miners, small insects that feed on the plants' foliage. If you see that leaves are infected, pinch them off or treat them with an insecticidal soap.



## pair them with...

\* Lush annuals like coleus, cockscomb, and marigolds.

\* Tall, slightly wild-looking native grasses, coneflowers, sedum "Autumn Joy," and yarrow.

\* Fall staples like pumpkins, gourds, and ruffled kale.

## containers or beds?

● Mums are perennials that can be planted in beds in the spring or fall. But take note: If you plant them in the fall, they may not last through the winter (unless you live in a warm climate) because they won't have much time to establish their roots before the first frost. In that case, you'll probably want to toss them at the end of the fall (they're cheap enough though—as little as \$5 per pot).

● If you're using them in containers, let them take the place of fading summer flowers in window boxes, or just nestle a small mum, pot and all, in a large planter with other flowers and foliage.

## check out all the colors!



white



yellow



gold



chartreuse



fuchsia



mauve



lavender



purple



bronze



russet



deep red



burgundy

**INSIDER TIP:** Lighter hues, like white and pale yellow, can brown in bad weather and easily show their spent flowers. To stretch your dollar, go with darker shades, which look fresher longer.

## there's something special about these varieties



### quarterback

With its big blooms, it should come as no surprise that this one's called a "football mum."



### bernadette yellow

This long-lasting flower looks like an extra-sunny yellow daisy.



### matchstick

Known for its brilliantly contrasting yellow and orange petals.



### yoke one

Introduced at the same time as the 'John Lennon' mum, this one has standout lime petals.



### rhumba

A daisy style that slowly fades from coral to peach.



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## sources

# paint index

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 <p>page 22 <b>Burnt Orange</b> #245897 Rust-Oleum</p>	 <p>page 22 <b>Fern</b> #250705 Rust-Oleum</p>	 <p>page 22 <b>Colonial Yellow</b> #SW0030 Sherwin-Williams</p>	 <p>page 32 <b>Gray Huskie</b> #1473 Benjamin Moore</p>
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 <p>page 75 <b>Carolina Gull</b> #2138-40 Benjamin Moore</p>	 <p>page 75 <b>Muslin</b> #1037 Benjamin Moore</p>	 <p>page 77 <b>Misty Blue</b> #820 Benjamin Moore</p>	 <p>page 77 <b>Mohave Desert</b> #1115 Benjamin Moore</p>	 <p>page 78 <b>Sexy Pink</b> #GLR08 Glidden</p>	 <p>page 78 <b>Cool Cobalt</b> #GLB03 Glidden</p>
 <p>page 78 <b>Lucky Shamrock</b> #GLG05 Glidden</p>	 <p>page 78 <b>Tangerine Dream</b> #DE5160 Dunn-Edwards</p>	 <p>page 85 <b>Fire Dance</b> #2171-20 Benjamin Moore</p>	 <p>page 107 <b>Sunshine</b> #2021-30 Benjamin Moore</p>	 <p>page 107 <b>Pear Green</b> #2028-40 Benjamin Moore</p>	 <p>page 107 <b>Utah Sky</b> #2065-40 Benjamin Moore</p>
 <p>page 108 <b>Magical Merlin</b> #A52-5 Olympic</p>	 <p>page 108 <b>Asparagus</b> #B68-5 Olympic</p>	 <p>page 108 <b>Dragon Fire</b> #S-G-240 Behr</p>	 <p>page 109 <b>Rose Dust</b> #1002-1B Valspar</p>	 <p>page 109 <b>Yellow Raincoat</b> #2020-40 Benjamin Moore</p>	 <p>page 109 <b>Razzle Dazzle</b> #1348 Benjamin Moore</p>
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# shopping guide

\*Websites listed may not always offer online ordering, but they will provide all the information needed to buy what you want, including the store nearest you. Some items may be listed as discontinued, custom, or vintage. Sites such as craigslist.com, ebay.com, and etsy.com are great resources to find similar styles. Don't fret if something is listed as "trade only." The design professionals at decorativebuyingservice.com can purchase these items on your behalf. For the full lowdown on how to order, visit their site.

## IN EVERY ISSUE

**Cover:** FABRIC (on chair) Panama by Manuel Canovas #4720-18, Cowtan & Tout; (on ottoman) Rico in Rosewood #73023-518 by Suburban Home, both decorativebuyingservice.com. **Page 22 Dear HGTV Magazine:** Crawford's nightstands: PAINT Barnyard Grass #440B-6, behr.com. Flores' hutch: PAINT Schoolhouse Slate #MSL270, Martha Stewart Living Paint, homedepot.com. Mackensen's dresser: PAINT (stripes) Poppy #1315, benjaminmoore.com; Burnt Orange #245897 and Fern #250705 spray paints, both rustoleum.com; (top and legs) Gold Metallic #1706 spray paint, krylon.com.

## HELP WANTED

**Pages 29–34 Clean House Confessions:** Living Room: ARTWORK painting by Michio Takayama, michiotakayama.com. CHAIRS gusmodern.com. COFFEE TABLE custom. For a similar look, try westelm.com. SIDE TABLES cb2.com. FLOOR LAMP Arco, dwr.com. BOXES (on coffee table) Discontinued. For a similar look, try westelm.com. VACUUM dyson.com. Bedroom: BEDDING dwellstudio.com. PILLOWS Josey Miller, bellacor.com. BEDSIDE TABLES westelm.com. TABLE LAMPS jonathanadler.com. CHANDELIER etsy.com. Bathroom: SHOWER CURTAIN custom. For a similar look, try etsy.com/shop/maisonboutique. Office: DESK AND RUG cb2.com. BOOKCASE bludot.com. WALL FILE Circuit in orange, containerstore.com.

## FUN DECORATING

**Pages 66–67 The 5-Ingredient Family Room:** SOFA custom sectional, Sarah Richardson Design Inc., sarahrichardsondesign.com. CHAIR, BENCH, AND SIDE TABLES all vintage.

COFFEE TABLE vintage Saarinen. KIDS CHAIRS homesense.ca. DRUM STOOLS globalviews.com. RUG Elite Carpet and Home, Toronto, 416-785-7885. CURTAINS (fabric) High Voltage in berry & spice #173981, Schumacher, decorativebuyingservice.com. FLOOR LAMP artemide.com. STORAGE BASKETS pbkids.com. INTERIOR DESIGN Sarah Richardson Design, Inc., sarahrichardsondesign.com. **Pages 77–78 Step Up Your Stairs:** Make a Rainbow: PAINT (from top) Sexy Pink #GLR08, Cool Cobalt #GLB03, Sunflower #GLY01, Red Geranium #GLR06, Bright Black Raspberry #GLR01, Fresh Tangerines #GLO02, Lucky Shamrock #GLG05, all glidden.com. ARCHITECT Lorenzo Grifantini, director, Dos Architects, London, dosarchitects.com. **Pages 89–93 Thanksgiving With a Twist:** CERAMIC TILES U.S. Ceramic 6" x 6" wall tiles in bright snow white, homedepot.com.

## MISSION MAKEOVER

**Pages 107–109 Big Punch With Little Pots of Paint:** CHAIR discontinued. For a similar look, try Salt chair in white, dwr.com. DRESSER vintage; (knobs) Martha Stewart Living 1" medallion cabinet hardware knob, homedepot.com. PATTERNED CHAIR Easy chair in figur beige, ikea.com. FRAMES vintage. STOOLS Offcut stool by Tom Dixon, tomdixon.net. LAMP (base) Mix & Match StyleCraft gloss white table lamp base, bedbathandbeyond.com; (lampshade) Square Bell by Broome Lampshades, Inc., lampshadesny.com. METAL TRAY 14" square zinc tray, jamaligarden.com. SALAD BOWL AND SERVERS Acacia wood, surlatable.com. **Pages 110–112 From Everyday to Holiday:** PAINT

(walls) Soft Chamois #OC-13, benjaminmoore.com; (inside bookshelves) Light Blue #22, farrow-ball.com. TABLE AND CHAIRS vintage. RUG (before) Classic Home handspun jute 3006 natural rug, (after) Rugs USA Monaco Parma sandstone wool rug, both rugsusa.com. CHANDELIER vintage; (paint) Old White by Annie Sloan Chalk Paint, ldlinsanddecor.com or anniesloan.com. TABLECLOTH Banded, fitted custom cloth, starts at \$300, ldlinsanddecor.com. PLACE MATS AND NAPKINS worldmarket.com. DINNER PLATES Vera Wang by Wedgwood Grosgrain, wwrd.com. WATER GLASSES, SALAD PLATES, AND HURRICANES westelm.com. CENTERPIECE VASE 8" x 7" copper finish bucket, jamaligarden.com. ARTWORK (nest, birds, and feather paintings on bookshelves) by Lauren Barksdale Hill, laurenbarksdale.com.

**Pages 114–115 Presto Chango!** CASTERS Hollow Wheel caster, satin nickel with brake and stem, mockett.com. HOOKS (next to drawer) Stainless steel hook, sugatsune.com. DRAWER PULL Liberty 15 1/8" bar cabinet hardware appliance pull, homedepot.com. CORK DRAWER LINER Cork self-adhesive drawer & shelf liner, containerstore.com. CURTAIN ROD 3/8" concealed-mount café rod set in polished nickel finish, rejuvenation.com. S-HOOKS Crown bolt zinc-plated 1" S-hook, homedepot.com. GRIP SHELF LINER Con-Tact ultra grip 48" x 20" roll, homedepot.com. COOKBOOK HOLDER Umbra Custom Cook-a-Boo, containerstore.com. MELAMINE BOWLS 6-piece set, crateandbarrel.com. KNIVES Schmidt Brothers Cutlery bonded teak series, crateandbarrel.com. OVEN MITT Bold stripe navy, henhouselinens.com. DISH TOWEL Yellow assorted kitchen towels and dishcloth, set of 7, target.com. BASKET Seagrass, containerstore.com. MORTAR AND PESTLE crateandbarrel.com. KITCHEN TIMER Magnetic kitchen timer in yellow, kikkerland.com. KITCHEN SHEARS Kuhn Rikon kitchen shears, surlatable.com. PEELER Kuhn Rikon Swiss peeler, surlatable.com.

## HOUSE TOURS

**Pages 126–133 Welcome to the Fun House:** Kitchen and Mud Room: FLOOR RUNNERS Magdelana York Collection, magdelanayorkcollection.com. Sitting Room: THROWS Sorcha, sorchastore.com. Bunk Room: BLANKETS Sorcha, sorchastore.com. Throughout: ANTIQUES AND DECORATIVE ACCESSORIES Folk Art Antiques by Lee Adams, Duxbury, MA, 781-934-7132.

## KITCHEN CHRONICLES

**Pages 135–138 Go On!** Use a Favorite Color: PAINT (walls) Pointing #2003, farrow-ball.com. CABINETS custom, pwncarpenters.com. CABINET HARDWARE rockymountainhardware.com. COUNTERTOP (island) Black walnut, pwncarpenters.com. FLOORING existing. SINKS (main) Franke stainless double undermount; (in island) Elements/stainless 16" diameter, both franke.com. POT FILLER AND SINK FAUCET deltafaucet.com. RANGE Wolf 60" dual fuel self-cleaning double oven, subzero-wolf.com. HOOD custom, Handcrafted

Metal, Austin, TX, handcraftedmetal.com. FRIDGE Stainless steel glass door right side and pullout freezer drawer left side, subzero-wolf.com. DISHWASHER 24" Intelli-Wash stainless steel, vikingrange.com. INTERIOR DESIGN Michele Trout and Heidi Bonesteel, Bonesteel Trout Hall, Los Angeles, 310-454-8762, bonesteeltrouthall.com. **Pages 141–144 Pantry Raid** Deb Perelman: SHELVING Ekby Mossby wall shelf, ikea.com. Debi Mazar & Gabriele Corcos: SHELVING Real Organized 48" x 10" x 2" wood shelf, lowes.com.

## ONE LAST QUESTION

**Page 160 Vern Yip:** HURRICANE Glass pillar candle holder, \$14, colonialcandle.com. Alison Victoria: CANDLES Pumpkin Pie and Apple Cider large two-wick tumblers, \$28 each, yankeecandle.com. Courtney Novogratz: PILLOW Midwest-CBK red cable knit pillow, \$32, amazon.com. Emily Henderson: SHEEPSKIN Rens, \$30, ikea.com. CHAIR American Artisan Berkshire armchair, \$419, ethanallen.com.



## BERRY WREATH DIY PAGE 7

**1** Start with a premade vine or twig wreath as the base. Ours is 24 inches in diameter, but you can use any size as long as

it's in proportion to your door (find wreaths from \$2 at egrapevinestore.com). **2** You'll also need two or three branches each of Hypericum and bittersweet berries (available at florists). Pull apart the branches into thin, flexible pieces. **3** Weave the Hypericum branches into the wreath. Follow with the bittersweet branches, overlapping the berries so they disguise the base. If you want, secure the branches to the base every few inches with wire or small bits of twine. **4** That's it! Hang from your door. At the end of the season, store in an airtight box until next year.



## contests

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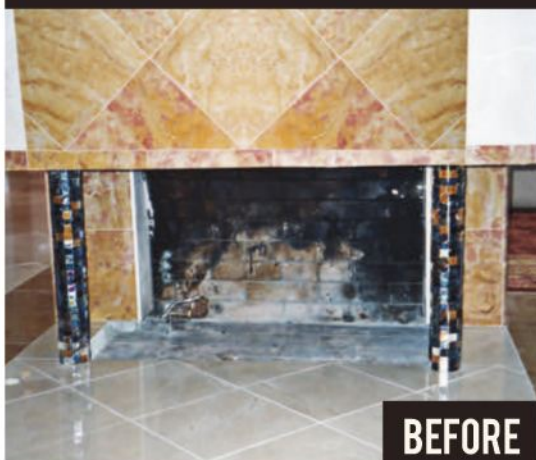
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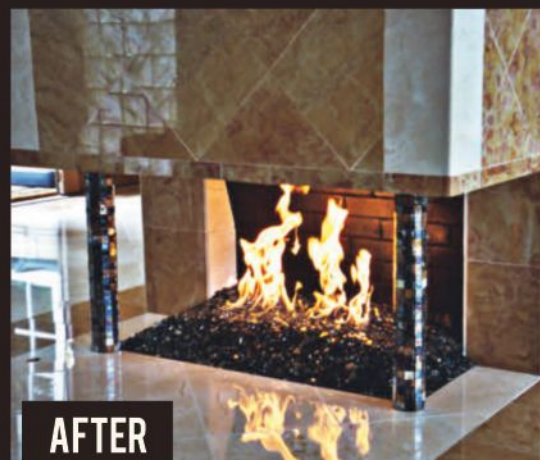
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# one last question

We tossed out a single Q to some of your favorite hosts.

**How do you make your home feel warm and cozy?**

“I’m a big fan of layering a desk chair or dining chairs with inexpensive sheepskins to soften up the hard surface.”

—Emily Henderson, *Secrets From a Stylist*



“I spray-paint pinecones white lacquer or metallic silver to make them look modern, then display them in a wooden or silver bowl.”

—Taniya Nayak, *House Hunters on Vacation*



“I fill a glass hurricane with wrapped hard candy, like Werther’s. I’m a sucker for caramel, and I like the gold metallic wrappers.”

—Vern Yip, *HGTV Design Star*



“Burn an apple cider candle and a pumpkin pie candle at the same time. Your house will smell like you’ve been baking all day, and you’ll feel like cuddling up on the sofa and watching your favorite shows.”

—Alison Victoria, *DIY Network’s Kitchen Crashers*



“I love pillows and throws in materials like wool and cashmere. If you have a sweater with a hole in the arm, or one that doesn’t fit anymore, you can take it to a seamstress and have it made into a cozy pillow.”

—Cortney Novogratz, *Home by Novogratz*



“In a lamp, switch out plain lightbulbs for pink ones. They give off a warm glow.”

—Sabrina Soto, *The High Low Project*



FOR SHOPPING SOURCES, SEE PAGE 158.

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